

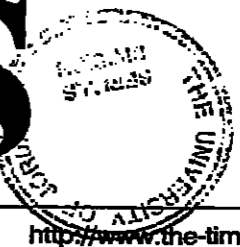
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# THE TIMES



No. 66,262

FRIDAY JULY 24 1998



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FRIDAY  
**30p**  
EVERY WEEKDAY

TODAY  
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page 18

Why we should have killed Hitler  
DANIEL JOHNSON  
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School's out, summer's in  
Where to go and what to do in the holidays  
The new Bardot  
IN THE FREE GLOSSY MAGAZINE

FRIDAY  
**30p**  
EVERY WEEKDAY

## Cook criticised over blunder in surveillance

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE EDITOR

ROBIN COOK was strongly criticised yesterday by the Intelligence Services Commissioner for failing to read a warrant properly that led to an unlawful surveillance operation by GCHQ, the Government's eavesdropping centre.

The warrant had been incorrectly drawn up and the Foreign Secretary should have checked the wording before signing it, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said in a report on the operation of the Intelligence Services Act 1994.

The result was that two warrants for which GCHQ applied were swapped round, and Mr Cook signed the wrong one.

Such strong criticism of the Foreign Secretary is unprecedented in such a report.

A separate report by another law lord yesterday revealed that in the past year government ministers authorised more telephone taps than at any time since 1985. A report by Lord Nolan revealed 1,712 phone and mail intercepts were issued in 1997, compared with 1,370 in 1996.

Lord Nolan, the Interception of Communications Commissioner, said the Home Secretary and Scottish Secretary had sanctioned "by far the highest" number of phone taps since new procedures were introduced in 1985.

The criticism of Mr Cook

comes as he prepares to receive a copy of the report by Sir Thomas Legg, QC, into the arms-for-Africa affair, due to be published on Monday. The Legg inquiry also focused on which papers the Foreign Secretary had seen and read.

The report is expected to clear ministers, including Mr Cook, of blame for the affair, in which Foreign Office officials were alleged to have had prior knowledge of a deal involving Sandline International selling arms to a Nigerian-led force to overthrow the military junta in Sierra Leone.

Whitehall officials alleged that Mr Cook had failed to read papers highlighting Sandline's presence in Sierra Leone. The Legg report is expected to call for tighter procedures to ensure that the Foreign Secretary and other Foreign Office ministers are not left in ignorance of papers containing sensitive material.

However, yesterday's criticism of Mr Cook by Lord Justice Stuart-Smith has come at a particularly embarrassing time for the Foreign Secretary and has reinforced the view that he is not a "detail man".

In his report, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said that GCHQ had applied simultaneously for two warrants. When a warrant is required by one of the intelligence services, officials at the agency concerned

prepare a draft application which is passed to the Foreign Office. It is scrutinised by senior officials before being presented to the Foreign Secretary for consideration. The application is accompanied by the numbered warrant which he is being asked to sign.

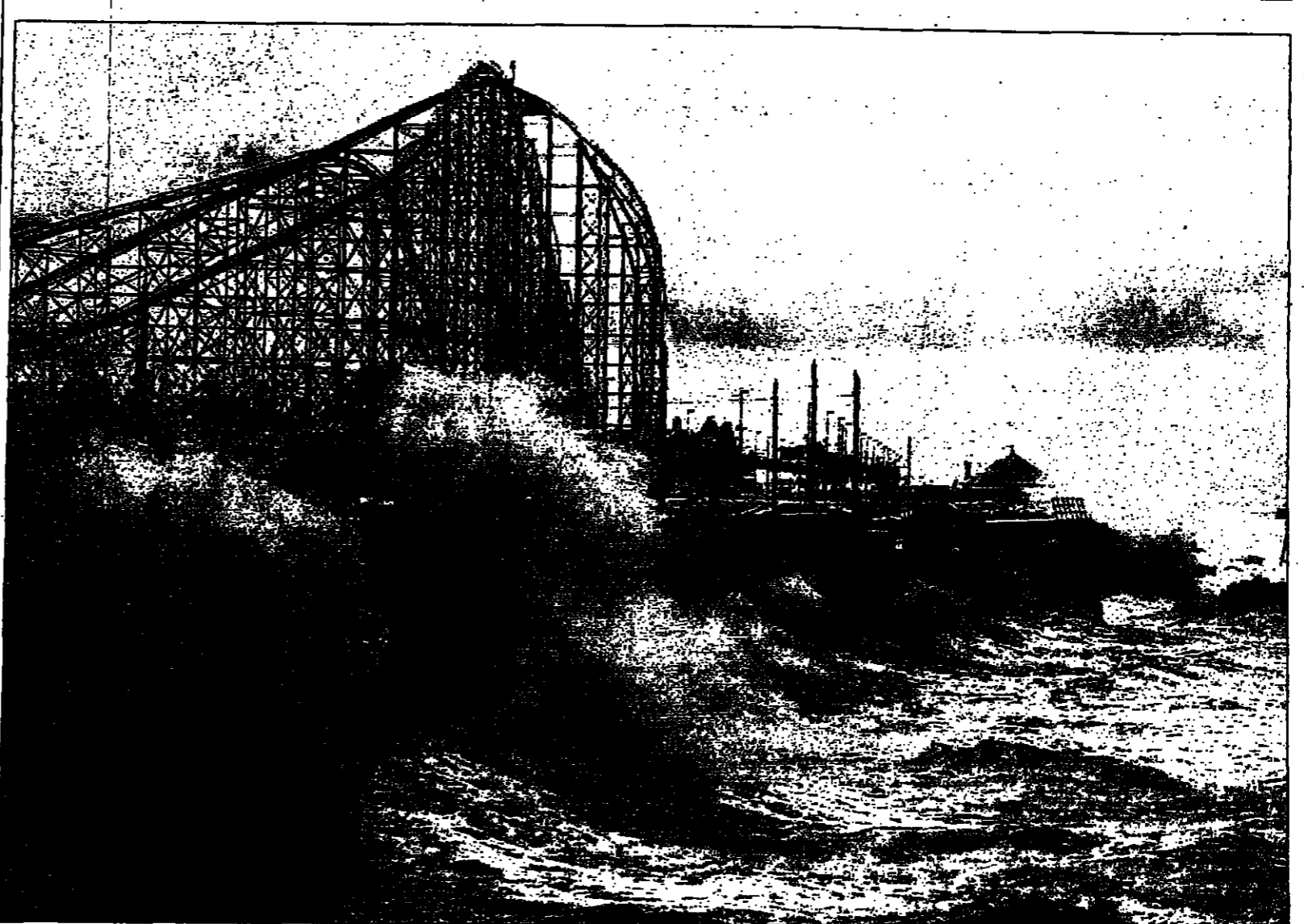
"None of the officials who scrutinised the application, nor the Foreign Secretary himself, noticed that the wrong instrument was referenced and attached and the fact only came to light when the signed instrument was returned to GCHQ by which time GCHQ had carried out the proposed action," Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said.

He added: "Whilst I accept that the Foreign Secretary intended to authorise the action and make it not unlawful in accordance with section 5 of the 1994 Act, he had in fact failed to do so by signing the wrong warrant, with the result that the action carried out by GCHQ was unlawful."

"Although there were complicating factors, it should not have happened. Indeed, the Foreign Secretary should have checked the warrant before he signed it."

Lord Nolan's report revealed the phones of several law-abiding members of the public were bugged by mistake after operators got the wrong numbers.

## High thrills and high seas: it's England's high summer



Blackpool still awaits the long-promised summer as waves break over the promenade. Rollercoaster champion, page 6. Photograph: John Giles

## Revolt on gay sex retreat

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SHERMAN

TONY BLAIR and Jack Straw were struggling to prevent a serious backbench revolt last night as Labour MPs attacked their apparent readiness to cave in to the Lords over lowering the age of consent for gay sex.

Senior ministers, including several whips, were voicing concern that the Government seemed ready to allow Wednesday's massive defeat by peers to stand, using the argument that otherwise its Crime and Disorder Bill would be in jeopardy.

Labour MPs were arguing that the Lords' decision to prevent the age of consent for homosexuals being cut to 16 should be overturned by the Commons next Tuesday and

A bare fifth of the public favours keeping the House of Lords as it is. The latest MORI poll for *The Times* shows that the majority support reform or outright abolition of the Lords. A MORI poll last year showed that the public opposed a lower age of consent by 55 to 16 per cent. Page 12

sent back to the Lords to make it think again about defying the will of the elected House.

The proposal looks doomed. But as talks between ministers and MPs proceeded on how to handle the Lords' defeat, Downing Street sent out an olive branch by promising that "whatever happens in the next few days" MPs would get another chance to ensure the measure was implemented, as had been the clearly expressed desire of the Commons with a 207 majority last month.

It amounted to a pledge that the Government would get the decision through next year, either in a short Bill of its own or an amendment to Mr Straw's criminal justice Bill.

Ann Keen, Labour MP for Brentford and Isleworth, who proposed the amendment that brought about the Commons decision on the age of consent.

said last night that Labour MPs would be consulted before a decision was made about how to handle the defeat. She added: "The elected members of the Commons and the elected Government will make sure that the equal age of consent is passed into statute because it's right to do so. The moral argument has been won, the legal argument has been won, the human rights argument has without question been won."

Downing Street made clear that Mr Blair and Mr Straw wanted the crime Bill to get on the statute book by next Friday, the day the Commons rises for the long summer recess, and suggested that sending the Bill back to the Lords next week might be risky.

Mr Straw said last night decisions would be made early next week. He added: "The imperative at the moment is to ensure that the Crime and Disorder Bill reaches the statute book because it contains so many measures — including, for example, those dealing with sex offenders — that are much needed and the public

Continued on page 2, col 7

The vote, page 12  
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## Nationwide stays put

The Nationwide will remain Britain's biggest building society after members voted against conversion to a bank.

A majority of just 33,710 ensured that it will not follow the Abbey National and the Halifax — and deprived members of a conversion windfall of up to £2,000. Page 25

## Half-mast flags for Princess

After consulting Prince William and Prince Harry the Queen has ordered flags to be flown at half mast next month to mark the first anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Page 7

## Tour's rest day is arrests day

A rest day in the Tour de France brought no respite from the doping scandal as police in Lyons, Lille and Metz detained riders and other personnel from the Festina and TVM teams. Page 48

## Chechen leader survives bomb

President Maskhadov of Chechnya survived with only scratches when his armoured Chevrolet was destroyed by a car bomb. One of his bodyguards was killed and three were seriously injured. Page 17

## Burns treatment 'has killed 30,000'

By IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

TENS of thousands of patients critically ill because of burns or shock have been killed by a treatment which doctors have regularly used for over 50 years, according to research published today.

The research, described as

"robust" by the *British Medical Journal*, suggests that up to 30,000 patients in Britain alone have died because they were treated with human albumin solution in the belief this would save their lives.

The findings are so alarming that an immediate meeting was called yesterday of the Medical Control Agency and

the Committee on Safety in Medicine — the two expert bodies which advise the Government — to consider banning the use of the treatment. The experts decided to ask the manufacturers of the blood products for further details. They will meet again shortly to decide what action to take.

Human albumin solution

has been the standard treatment for severe burns and shock since it was used, apparently successfully, on seven American sailors who recovered from serious injuries after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941.

It was originally developed as a battlefield treatment. Continued on Page 2, col 5

## Government backs town hall 'baptism'

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

ALTERNATIVE "baptisms" for married or unmarried parents could be held in register offices under plans being considered by the Government to strengthen families' commitment to children.

Registrars would conduct the "baby naming" ceremony, complete with poetry and music but without prayers, for parents wanting a secular rather than religious service.

The Government is also considering empowering registrars to offer pre-marriage counselling to couples similar to guidance given by vicars and priests to parishioners.

The plans emerged as the Government announced it was investing £2 million in a National Family and Parenting Institute to help families to bring up children.

Ministers are also looking at ending the £46.50p special licence which allows couples to marry after 24 hours' notice. One plan is to have a general 15-day notice period. A White-

hall source said registrars should be used "more creatively" to prepare people before marriage in the way some churches do, while baby naming ceremonies would allow the wider family to be involved in making a commitment to the child.

Rosie Styles, director of the Baby Naming Society, said: "It's something which might encourage people to pause and think, what are my responsibilities towards my children."

A first reaction from a Church of England bishop was negative. The Right Rev Nigel McCulloch, Bishop of Wakefield, said: "I would regret any move that led people away from the Church's ministry. Baptism is a bridge, not a barrier between the Church and the community."

Baptisms in the Church of England fell from 365,000 in 1940 to 150,000 in 1995.

Baby sponsors, page 2  
Leading article, page 21

## Who Dares Twins: SAS bungle Bosnia snatch

By MICHAEL EVANS AND TOM WALKER

AN SAS operation to snatch twin Serb war crimes suspects in Bosnia was hailed as a success by the Government yesterday — until it was discovered that the wrong brothers had been seized and taken to The Hague.

The troops had been hunting 29-year-old twins Predrag and Nenad Banovic, who are suspected of torturing and beating to death Muslim inmates at the infamous Keraterm prison camp in 1992. The two men arrested — who did not even have the same names as the suspects — protested their innocence all

the way to The Hague, where it was admitted that there had been a mistake. They were then sent home to Prijedor.

After previous successes when the SAS had identified the right suspects, notably also in Prijedor in July last year when they shot dead Stimo Drifjaca and arrested Milan Kovacevic, the bungled mission was being viewed as highly embarrassing.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, had issued a joint statement after the operation. "British Sfor (Nato-led Stabilisation Force) troops are to be congratulated on this latest action in Prijedor," they said. Last night it

emerged that the SAS had been given intelligence from a number of quarters that the Banovic brothers were at a certain address. But there were doubts, so the twins were sent to The Hague for checks.

A spokesman for the international war crimes tribunal said: "These are two brothers, they are even twins, but they have another family name and other Christian names." Nato sources said the two were given apologies. It is believed the suspects have left Bosnia.

Before yesterday's blunder, which generated a new motto for the SAS: *Who Dares Twins*, 11 war crimes suspects had been detained in Bosnia by Sfor.



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# Sorrowful hostess turns down all party invitations

A favourite play of the more unscrupulous sort of hostess is to issue warm invitations which (as she well knows) cannot be accepted. The more certain she is of a refusal, the warmer the invitation. There are even hostesses who send out dozens of invitations to purely phantom social occasions, knowing full well that none of those invited will be able to come — thus discharging, at a stroke, a score of tiresome social obligations for the cost of as many first class stamps and a pack of "At Home" cards.

Those familiar with this ruse will not be surprised at

the response of MPs after the Leader of the House Ann Taylor told them yesterday afternoon that the House is to rise on Friday. All at once, Mrs Taylor was deluged with requests that time be found for immediate debates or lengthy statements on crucial national or constituency affairs.

Each request was apparently urgent. For each — if only Mrs Taylor could find the time for the debate — eager and dutiful MPs expressed themselves more than happy to turn up. To each, Mrs Taylor, with infinite pain, regretted that between now and next Friday there simply was no



POLITICAL SKETCH

time. Each took the news with palpable disappointment — mentally packing bucket and spade.

Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, was cross that time had not been found for a Commons statement on safety at sea. Neil Gerrard (Lab, Walthamstow) begged for an opportunity to debate the Lords' rejection of an equal age of consent for homosexuals; Evan Harris (Lib Dem, Ox-

ford W & Abingdon) wanted all-party consultations on the problem. John Wilkinson (C, Ruislip N) was ready, willing and able to debate the legality of the French state subsidy to Air France.

Sadly, the House Leader could not promise to arrange for any of these debates.

Dozens of members were on hand to scrutinise a White Paper on a Freedom of Information Bill. Eric Forth (C,

Bromley & Chislehurst) joined a request to discuss the unguarded remarks of a junior minister, Nigel Griffiths. The Tories' James Paice was quite happy to stay behind to debate a crisis in the milk industry.

Sir Peter Tapsell (C, Louth & Horncastle) was actually willing to return from his holidays to scrutinise plans for military intervention in the Balkans.

The Liberal Democrats' Archy Kirkwood was prepared to delay his holiday if ministers would hang around a little longer and bring the House news of the Government's thoughts on the Jenkins Committee's conclusions

on electoral reform ... A sorrowful Mrs Taylor could offer no such undertakings.

And she took with a good grace a variety of teasing suggestions that she might not survive the impending Cabinet reshuffle.

Does she know her fate? If she does, and if yesterday was her last dispatch box appearance as House Leader, what a temptation it would have been to rise, moments before Madam Speaker wound up MPs' questions to her, and announce that such was their enthusiasm for extra work that she had changed her mind, cancelled the Recess

and decided to keep the House sitting through August — to accommodate all their requests. To observe the shocked response would have been delicious.

Speaking the previous night in the Lords debate on Age of Consent, the Earl of Longford said this: "Professor Rowe once said to me that my trouble was that I had no homosexual experience. I do not know how far that applies to other Members of the House. Looking around, I do not know. All my best friends are dead so they would not be here."

Lord Longford is 92.

NEWS IN BRIEF

## Law Lords ruling on life sentences

The Home Secretary has the right to refuse to release prisoners serving mandatory life sentences even if they have served the tariff term of their sentence and are not thought to present a violent risk to the public, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

Five Law Lords upheld a Court of Appeal decision in November last year that he may lawfully refuse to release a prisoner if he feels there is a risk of any further imprisonable offences being committed. Lords Goff, Browne-Wilkinson, Slynn, Steyn and Clyde dismissed an appeal against that Court of Appeal ruling by Dennis Stafford, 64, who is still in jail 30 years after murdering a business associate.

## £3m stand-off bill

The Drumcree stand-off cost £3 million in criminal damage, the Government disclosed. The Compensation Agency will pay for repairs to the dozens of houses and public buildings damaged in riots as well as the estimated 500 vehicles hijacked and set on fire. But the cost does not include police overtime or injuries to RUC officers and civilians during the clashes.

## Bug resists drugs

Health experts said that a potentially lethal form of the salmonella bacterium, *Salmonella typhimurium* DT104, is becoming increasingly resistant to all available antibiotics. Just under 3,000 human infections caused by the strain were reported to the Public Health Laboratory Service last year, of which 95 per cent were resistant to four or more widely-used drugs.

## Young smokers

An advertising campaign launched yesterday warns teenagers that smoking causes damage to the heart and lungs from the first cigarette. The Health Education Authority campaign, called "Every cigarette is doing you damage", aimed at young adult smokers, comes as latest figures show there are more smokers aged 16-24 than in any other age group.

## Litigation code

Costly litigation disputes over medical and other accident claims could be replaced by speedy settlements under codes of practice unveiled by the Government yesterday. Litigants will have to keep to strict new protocols designed to stop delaying tactics or other lawyers' exploits. If they fail, judges will want explanations and have a power to impose costs penalties.

## Taxing charities

MPs have told the Inland Revenue to sharpen its monitoring of the tax affairs of the country's 300,000 charities. A report today from the Commons Public Accounts Committee accuses the Revenue of lacking focus in checking charities' tax exemptions. The committee said that one in five of the largest 6,400 charities had never had an audit visit from the tax authorities.

## PC burger bar

Police officers in West Sussex have been threatened with disciplinary action if they accept the offer of free burgers at local McDonald's restaurants. Deputy Chief Constable Mark Jordan, of Sussex Police, said that the offer destroyed an officer's integrity. A police spokesman said it broke the force's disciplinary code that forbids accepting gratuities without consent.

# African bishops outraged at sexual liberalism

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

AFRICAN bishops at the Lambeth Conference yesterday attacked the sexual liberalism of the Anglican Church in the West and called on its bishops to repent. They accused it of betraying the Bible on issues of sexuality.

Bishops from Nigeria and Uganda condemned the Lambeth conference, the ten-yearly meeting of Anglican bishops from around the world, for allowing the agenda to be hijacked by the issue of homosexuality. They made it clear that they would not tolerate any compromise on traditional standards from the conference. And they also indicated that they would unite to oppose any attempts to set up a commission to study the issue.

The Right Rev Wilson Mutebi, Bishop of Mityana in Uganda, where 22 Christian converts were martyred in the 19th century after they refused to be sodomised by the King of Uganda, said: "The issue of homosexuality is leading the Anglican Church astray. The Bible for us is a very important document. A Christian is a disciple of Jesus Christ. If they take pages out of the Bible, they are removing the person of Jesus Christ from the Bible. Ultimately, there-

fore, there will be no church. The Bible clearly states that homosexuality is wrong. Homosexuality is a sin. Any bishop who says this is not true, we consider to be out of communion with us. We are calling on them to repent."

The Right Rev Benjamin Kwashi, Bishop of Jos in Nigeria, said: "We know that homosexual practice is not the will of God. The Church should be discussing mission, preaching the gospel, caring for the poor, being an instrument of peace."

"As black Africans, we have had our share of insults. The Western Church is affluent. But we have no material possessions, nothing. We are suffering to preach the gospel. We are told we are less intelligent, that we are not far away from witchcraft. On top of that, we are being oppressed with this issue of homosexuality, which is a Western problem. If the Western churches want to be homosexual, they should not make us change as well. Affluence and theology are different things."

The Right Rev Emmanuel Chukwuma, Bishop of Enugu in Nigeria, said: "How can homosexuality be God's will?"

It has always been preached against. We regard homosexuals as being unbelievers. Homosexuality is antithetical to the Bible. We do not want to sell our birthright and become unbelievers. There are more pressing issues than homosexuality to discuss."

The conflict between liberals and traditionalists over the issue was so heated that organisers moved the section dealing with homosexuality from the Kent University lecture hall where it met first to a Roman Catholic Franciscan study centre on the edges of the campus in an attempt to restore a sense of spirituality, calm and brotherly love.

The section, which has 60 bishops in it, with about two conservative or traditionalist bishops to one liberal, is expected to produce a report next week advocating traditional biblical ideals. The liberal minority on the section are then likely to produce their own, dissenting report. The 750 conference bishops and archbishops as a whole will then decide whether or not to adopt a resolution on either side in the third week. Whichever way the vote goes, neither side in the debate is likely to let the matter rest.



The Rev Roly Bain on his way to give a presentation on social issues to the Spouses' Conference at the gathering of bishops in Canterbury yesterday. Mr Bain, an ordained priest, is a full-time clown who also conducts church services

## Gay sex fury

Continued from page 1 much want. But Labour MPs were angry at suggestions they should "roll over" immediately after one of the most severe challenges by peers to the Commons' authority.

They argued that the proposal should be sent back to the Lords, daring peers to accept they had exercised their constitutional right and should now back down. If the Lords were defiant again, MPs accepted, the proposal might have to be dropped but at least the Commons would have put up a fight.

Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, stressed that big numbers of MPs would revolt if the Government decided to withdraw the amendment. "Unless the Government stands firm, there will be blood on the floor."

Rhodri Morgan, MP for Cardiff West, said: "The House of Lords thinks this is their Alamo. I think it is their Vietnam." But the Prime Minister's spokesman said the "absolute priority" was for the Bill to get the royal assent by next Friday. "We have to live in the real world."

Gay rights campaigners accused peers of "holding everyone to ransom". Peter Tatchell, spokesman for the hardline group Outrage!, said: "The prospect that Labour will ditch the equal age of consent in order to appease the homophobic House of Lords will be greeted with dismay and anger by the lesbian and gay community."

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Matthew Farris, page 20  
Leading article  
and Letters, page 21

# Baby 'sponsors' will make secular pledge

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

BABIES could have sponsors or supporters rather than godparents under proposals for a secular-style service intended to reinforce parents' responsibilities.

The traditional church baptism service, with families and godparents around a font, would be matched by a more informal ceremony in a register office in which poetry and music could replace prayers and holy water.

But the baby's sponsor or supporter would have much the same role as the traditional godparent, minus the promise to guide the child in the Christian faith.

The service would be attended by the baby's parents, grandparents and friends as a way of showing the commitment and support for the child. At the baby-naming ceremony a simple pledge would be given for the child's first major rite of passage.

The Baby Naming Society suggests: "We promise to try to be patient with our baby, neither demanding too little nor expecting too much. We

will try to offer unconditional love, regardless of success or failure."

With marriages becoming less frequent and co-habitation increasing, the ceremony may be the first time the grandparents and other members of respective families have met. It would offer an opportunity for them to recognise their responsibility for the baby. The sponsor would be making a public statement of intimacy with both the child and its family.

According to the Church of England, a godparent must be baptised and confirmed, although ministers can dispense with this requirement. A baby can be christened even if its parents are unmarried and not baptised themselves.

Church of England Canon Law lays down that there should be a minimum of three godparents, with two of the same sex as the baby.

Parents may be godparents and, while most couples choose only three godparents, members of the Royal Family have chosen in greater num-

bers. Prince William had six, including ex-King Constantine of Greece, Princess Alexandra and Sir Laurens van der Post.

A godparent has no legal obligations but must promise to bear witness to Jesus Christ, pray for their godchild and renounce all evil.

The Church insists that godparenthood is nothing to do with giving Christmas and birthday presents. The sole reason for choosing a godparent is that he or she is a practising Christian in a position to guide the child's spiritual life.

While many people are asked at least once in their lives, senior members of the Royal Family have proved popular choices to offer spiritual guidance to children.

The Queen has 30 godchildren, including Earl Spencer, the brother of Diana, Princess of Wales; the Prince of Wales has 27, including Tom Parker Bowles, son of Camilla Parker Bowles, his long-standing friend; and Diana, Princess of Wales had 17 godchildren.

## Burns cure 'a killer'

Continued from Page 1 because it was easier to use and keep than whole blood transfusions. The theory was that the albumin stayed in the circulation, drawing in water and helping to restore damaged tissue.

Ian Roberts from the Cochrane Injuries Group at the Institute of Child Health in London, said his findings suggested that far from drawing water into the circulation system, the albumin caused it to leak into the surrounding tissue — especially dangerous when it leaked into the lungs.

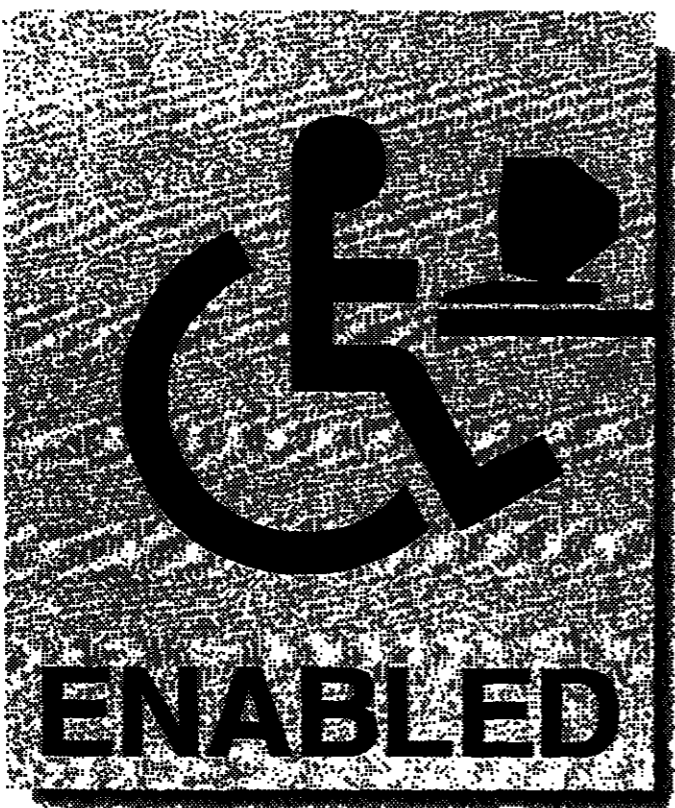
"This is a treatment which got into use through the backdoor," he said. "It was developed for use on the battlefield and when all the sailors treated with it after Pearl Harbour survived the clinical impression spread that it was useful even though there had never been any

proper clinical trials.

"We are the first ever to review the evidence systematically. We were amazed at what we found but are totally confident that we are accurate. We spent months looking for the results of every single reported trial there has been into albumin use all over the world. When you put them all together the trend is absolutely clear." He added: "If I was critically ill I would certainly not want albumin to be used on me."

The studies showed that a saline drip was always superior to albumin, regardless of the category of illness the patient was suffering from.

"Possibly there are some categories of illness where albumin may be beneficial, but there would need to be compelling evidence of benefit to outweigh the compelling evidence of harm," he said.



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# Millionaire goes for broke over TV licence



Wensley Haydon-Baillie and Samantha Acland on their wedding day in 1994 at his mansion, Wentworth Woodhouse, above. Mr Haydon-Baillie includes a possible £500,000 divorce settlement in his debts

A PUBLICITY-SHY millionaire once described as the Howard Hughes of British business is apparently so broke he cannot pay for his television licence. He has also separated from the wife he married only four years ago, and faces a potential £500,000 divorce settlement.

Wensley Haydon-Baillie, 42, is equal in *The Sunday Times* list of the wealthiest people in Britain with a personal fortune estimated at £50 million, is facing claims for debts totalling almost £16 million. Mr Haydon-Baillie, 54, a friend of Prince Michael of Kent and Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, has applied to enter into a voluntary insolvency arrangement and claims a sale of assets will more than cover the debts.

## Reclusive tycoon lists £91.50 fee among £16m debts as he faces his creditors, reports Paul Wilkinson

Wentworth Woodhouse, a 365-room Grade I listed house near Rotherham in 1989, promising to restore it to its former glories when it was the ancestral home of the Marquis of Rockingham. But locals say that little has been done to the magnificent Palladian building with its 600ft facade, said to be the longest

of any European mansion. The owners of the 5,000-acre estate surrounding Wentworth Woodhouse have stopped cutting the lawns and inside the house paint is peeling and plaster is dropping off the walls. Earlier this year seven staff were sacked. They are still owed £23,000 in redundancy, wages and pension.

Guy Canby, agent for Fitzwilliam Wentworth Estates who are owed £45,000 by Mr Haydon-Baillie, said: "We're not sure what will happen to the house but it's not on the market yet."

bling, paint is peeling off the walls and the roof is leaking." Mr Haydon-Baillie was once rated among the ten most serious art collectors in Britain, but has since sold off part of his collection. He also owns a collection of historic aircraft and Rolls-Royces, including the nose cone, engines and technical drawings from the prototype Concorde. He estimates a planned sale of the Concorde material would bring £10 million.

## Couple win damages for 'rat run' nuisance

A COUPLE who protested when roadworks turned the street outside their home into a "rat run" were awarded damages by the Court of Appeal yesterday in a landmark judgment.

A landmark court ruling could help end the scourge of building works reports Mark Henderson

phers Slade, will open the way for more than 300 similar claims for compensation arising from the A55 widening programme. The judges said that they heard an appeal over such small damages only because of the number of outstanding claims.

works rather than his unfortunate neighbour." The Welsh Office was also responsible for creating the rat run, even though it was directly caused by trespassers over whom it had no control, the judges ruled. "It can readily be inferred that the Welsh Office, when causing the temporary obstructions to the highway, created a situation in which they must have known that the rat-running on the service lane was a probable consequence and was in fact occurring."

## Judge condemns 'cavalier' CPS over rape trials

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

THE Crown Prosecution Service was yesterday ordered to pay £5,000 costs for what a judge described as an "horrendous episode in the course of justice" that could have resulted in an innocent man being jailed for life for rape.

ing a 20-year-old woman who picked him out from an identity parade. He was also charged with indecently assaulting and her causing her grievous bodily harm.

## Son finds his mother's body hidden in woods

By Russell Jenkins

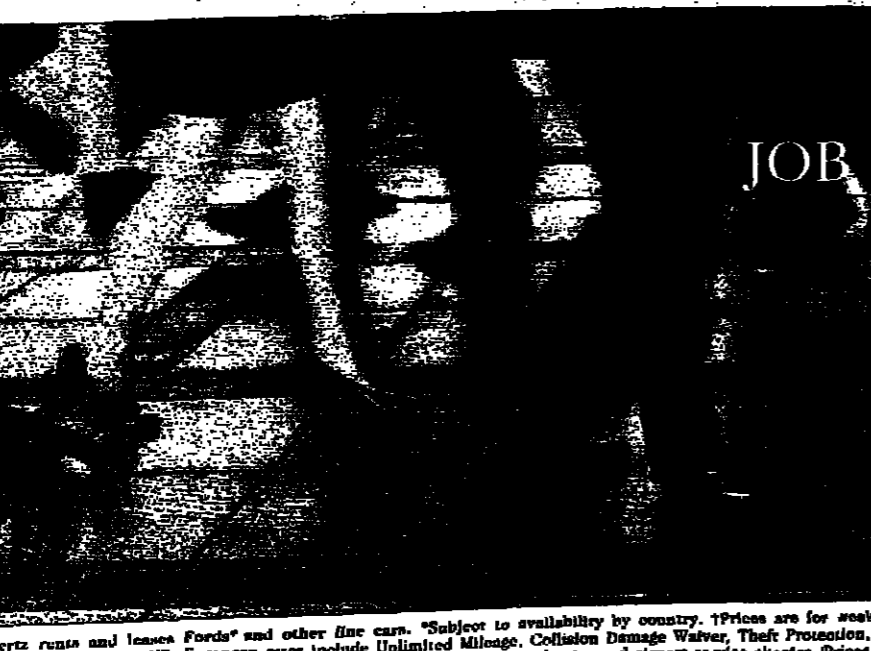
A MIDDLE-AGED housewife was beaten to death as she walked her dog in a Cheshire wood, police said yesterday.

animal to his mother's body. He called his father on his mobile phone, who raised the alarm.

hour to 45 minutes every day but she rarely walked through the woods, part of Delamere Forest National Park, less than half a mile from her home.



Julia Webb with Rosie, the dog she was walking



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# Anger has been driven from Longbridge



Back to work: a man arrives at Longbridge yesterday

AS HE absorbed the "Rover Jobs Bombshell" headline on the front of yesterday's evening newspaper, Ronald Field shook his silver head in the manner of those who have seen it all before. Yet he realised that this latest chapter in the turbulent history of car manufacturing in Longbridge was different.

The suburb on the outskirts of Birmingham has been synonymous with cars since Herbert Austin chose a disused printing works there to set up his Austin company in 1905. Children growing up in Longbridge knew their Austins from their MGs before they could walk. The plant has seen much industrial strife, and many mergers.

Why then was there no sound of outrage yesterday at the prospect of workers losing their jobs? The trade unions may have been grum-

Things have changed since the turbulent Seventies, reports Damian Whitworth

## 20,000 JOBS MAY GO: PAGE 25

bling a little but as their members streamed off shift at 2pm they said that they knew little about what was going on. Nor did most seem particularly worried about the fact.

In the Greenlands Social Club one man who works at Rover told *The Times* to get lost. But the reason he was cross with the newspapers was not that they were ignoring a story about the threat to working men, but that he thought they were "pumping up" the story.

Mr Field, 70, who is retired after working at Rover for 25 years, explained exactly how things were different from the 1970s. "Back then they would have been out on strike if a tea lady had got the sack." But why the change in attitude? Per-

haps Margaret Thatcher's trade union reforms had a role. But it was puzzling that those with secure jobs should be so apparently indifferent to those on short-term contracts, and most at risk.

Will Rogers, head of investment at Locate in Birmingham, which is part of the city council's economic development department, said that employer-employee relations had altered. "The 'us and them' situation has changed. The workforce and the management are generally working much better together. When something like this happens the workforce recognise the invest-

ment that has gone into the company. People have an understanding of the situation possibly better than they had a few years ago."

Mr Field had a more straightforward explanation. "When I worked there everybody walked to work," he said. Today the roads around the plant are jammed with gleaming Rover cars owned by employees. After their shifts they were jumping into them and heading off to their homes across the West Midlands. A once tight-knit community has disappeared.

In Oxford, Rover workers at the Cowley plant who had assumed

their jobs were protected by the £400 million investment in the production of a new car were last night thinking again (Helen Johnstone writes). Despondent staff expressed surprise that the plant, which employs 4,000, would have to take its share of the planned 1,500 redundancies. But management confirmed that separate plans to recruit 1,000 workers to make the new car, code-named R40, which is to be unveiled in October, would go ahead.

Rover is putting £400 million into the Cowley plant, which is being totally revamped to prepare for the launch. A senior source at Rover said: "The investments programme at Oxford is not affected nor is the new model programme.

Recruitment will continue to support this. But Cowley will have to come up with voluntary redundancies along with the other plants."

Car workers finishing the early shift expressed surprise and dismay at the first big redundancies to hit Cowley for ten years. One said: "It came as a bolt from the blue. I thought the new car had offered us a bit of security. We are waiting to hear the results of a meeting between the union and management."

However, a white-collar worker said that the high pound had been expected to have an effect. "We knew it was coming, we just didn't know in what shape or form. The manufacturing sector has been warning the Government for a long time about the adverse effects of the strong pound."

# Gangland boss jailed for 10 years over plot to supply lethal weapons

By Stewart Tandler and Adam Fresco

A GLASGOW crime boss was yesterday jailed for ten years for his part in a huge gun-running operation that supplied sub-machineguns, shotguns and explosives to underworld gangs around the country.

Paul Ferris, 35, described as dangerous and ruthless, was arrested after a two-year M15 and police operation.

Ferris had "arranged, paid for and taken delivery of a lethal parcel of weapons", said Judge Henry Blacksell at the Old Bailey.

Officers recovered three 9mm MAC-10 sub-machineguns, known as "Big

Macs", which can fire 1,100 rounds a minute, two sawn-off shotguns, a Thompson sub-machinegun, hand guns, silencers and ammunition.

It is believed that the weapons were heading to criminal gangs in Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow. Detectives feared that the weapons were wanted even for assassinations.

Judge Blacksell told Ferris: "One hardly dares to speculate the potential death and destruction that may have been caused if they had reached their intended destination. I have no doubt you are a dangerous and ruthless

professional criminal."

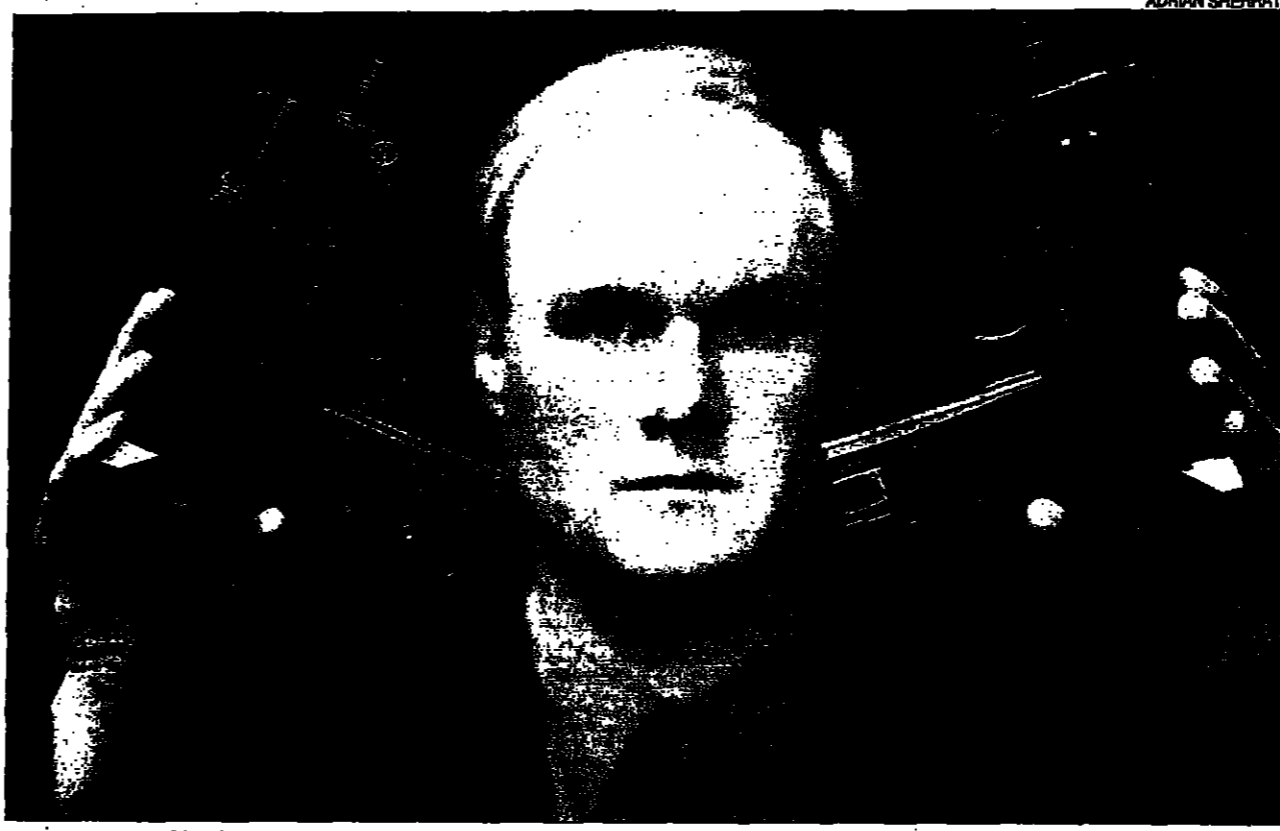
Armed police grabbed Ferris and two others just after he bought the weapons for £4,700 from John Ackerman, a gun dealer, at his home in Islington, North London, in May last year. Ackerman, believed to be the head of the supply network, has admitted his part in the gun-running conspiracy and will be sentenced today.

Among the weapons, officers found special blue-tipped bullets which travel below the speed of sound so there is less of a bang when they are fired.

A jury took two days to convict Ferris, who runs a security company called Premier Services, of conspiracy to sell or transfer prohibited weapons, conspiracy to deal in firearms, and possessing explosives.

Ferris once told a television programme: "If someone has done something wrong you point it out through civilised dialogue. If they still don't recognise this, you may have to speak to them again. I certainly would not use dialogue a third time. That's when violence is justified."

In 1992 Ferris was acquitted of murdering Arthur "Fat



Detective Chief Inspector Peter Spindler with two seized MAC-10 sub-machineguns and a subsonic bullet

# Gang is linked to third murder

By Adam Fresco

AN ARMED gang who killed two mothers, one in front of her young children, and raped a third woman were yesterday linked to another murder.

The three or four men have struck four times within a month in the London area. Detectives said the violence used was "exceptional". The gang members are black, as all the victims have been. Officers are investigating any possible connection between the victims and if any of them had links to the underworld.

One theory is that the killings, particularly of the women, were warnings to their partners that the gunmen are Yardie gangsters. Detective Chief Superintendent Jeff Rees said they could not rule out that the gang had recently arrived from Jamaica. He added: "There is reason to believe that unless we can catch these men soon there will be another murder."

Lee Jasper, from the Lambeth Police Consultancy Group, said: "We are witnessing a terror campaign such as the black community has never seen before."

In the latest attack, a trainee plasterer, Patrick Ferguson, was shot in front of his girlfriend and child in Kingsbury, north London last week.



Paul Ferris and Constance Howarth, also jailed

Boy" Thompson Jr, while on weekend leave from prison. The dead man was the son of Arthur Thompson, acknowledged as Glasgow's godfather. The main witness against him was a police informer, whose evidence was destroyed.

Ferris's part in the gun-running conspiracy ended when Lancashire police in January last year boarded a night train on which a drunken Scottish passenger was drinking heavily and annoy-

ing passengers. He was armed with a .22 pistol, a silencer and 60 rounds — the standard kit of a hitman.

The next day, while the man was being held by detectives, increasingly frantic calls were made to his mobile telephone and pager. The calls linked him to Ferris and a ring of people that included Ackerman. One of Ackerman's suppliers was Robert Bond, who has also admitted gun charges and will be sentenced later.

Ferris defended himself in court by claiming that he thought the box in which the weapons were found contained material for a fraud he was involved in. He knew nothing of the guns, he said.

Two other members of the arms plot, Constance Howarth, 28, from Salford, Manchester, and Henry Suttee, 67, from Epsom, Surrey, were jailed for five years each.

David Spedding, 37, of Cleveleys, Lancashire, was cleared of all charges.



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# I'm not a control freak, Blair aide tells libel court

ALASTAIR CAMPBELL, the Prime Minister's chief press secretary, is not a control freak — and that's official. The Government spin doctor denied the very idea in evidence to the High Court yesterday during frosty exchanges with the former Tory MP Rupert Allason.

Mr Campbell, 41, who became Tony Blair's press spokesman in 1994, admitted that he had read such suggestions but did not accept that he enjoyed exerting control over the political minions who seek his views.

Mr Allason asked him: "Do you agree there might be some justification in people taking the view that you like to exercise control over people or you express your views very forcefully?"

Mr Campbell, formerly the Daily Mirror's political editor, replied: "I don't see that they are necessarily the same things, but I do not consider myself to be a control freak."

Mr Campbell, a former Mirror Group Newspapers trainee who became political editor at the age of 32, denied that he reacted strongly to criticism: "Criticism is part and parcel of the world we inhabit. In my current capacity I may deal with criticism of

## Press secretary clashes with former Tory MP over article, reports Michael Horsnell

the person who employs me." He reacted to criticism of the Prime Minister if he thought it was based on unfounded claims, "but criticism of me doesn't bother me."

Mr Campbell was giving evidence for his former employer against Mr Allason, who is seeking damages over a "malicious" article printed in November 1992. It claimed that 50 MPs had challenged him in an early day motion to demonstrate his concern for cheated Maxwell pensioners by giving them £250,000 he had allegedly won in a previous libel hearing against The Mirror.

Mr Allason, who wants damages for malicious falsehood, has told Mr Justice Poplewell at the High Court that David Bradshaw, who

had been hired by Mr Campbell as The Mirror's deputy political editor, had written the early day motion and handed it to a "compliant MP" to table.

The motion was signed by only seven MPs and the article broke a confidentiality clause describing the amount of damages, which were only £200,000. In a subsequent memorandum to senior executives at the paper, the court has been told, Mr Campbell maintained that the political staff played no part in manipulating the story against Mr Allason.

At an earlier trial of the action, the High Court Judge Sir Maurice Drake found that the article was false and malicious but dismissed Mr Allason's claims for damages because he ruled that the story did not cause him financial loss. Mr Allason, who claims the article led to the loss of a \$75,000 (£47,000) book contract, won the right to a new trial in the Court of Appeal earlier this year.

Mr Campbell admitted during 45 minutes in the witness box yesterday that while serving as a political journalist he had drafted questions that were tabled by MPs as early day motions, and that he had



Mr Allason and Mr Campbell arriving separately yesterday for a High Court exchange over a Mirror article

probably done so in his present capacity.

But he denied that he was responsible for the motion at the centre of Mr Allason's case. Mr Campbell said that his memo to the Mirror's legal director, Arthur Davidson, QC, was based on what Mr Bradshaw told him after Mr Allason had complained.

He confirmed that he had never called for Mr Bradshaw to be disciplined when he

learned that he had been misled by his deputy.

Mr Allason: "Has his lack of candour caused a lot of trouble for you and others?" Mr Campbell: "This story has never gone away."

Mr Allason: "It resulted in you being threatened with the sack. Why did you never call for sanctions against Mr Bradshaw?" Mr Campbell: "It was up to the Editor to

Mr Allason asked why, in the circumstances, he had recommended Mr Bradshaw's appointment to the Government's strategic development unit in Downing Street. But when Mr Allason asked if he was confident that Mr Bradshaw would not mislead him again, the judge warned him about his line of questioning.

The former MP, who lost his seat at Torbay at the general election, asked Mr Campbell whether Mr Bradshaw could have misunderstood an inappropriate signal from him when he decided to draft the motion. "There were no nods and winks," asked Mr Allason. "None whatsoever," Mr Campbell replied.

## Inquiry unearths claims of corruption

By Paul Wilkinson

FRAUD squad detectives are investigating a Labour council after allegations of corruption were made to officers working on a murder inquiry.

Peter Swales, a former minister, died in an apparent "roadrage" incident earlier this year. The corruption claims surfaced as detectives conducted interviews in Featherstone, West Yorkshire, where he lived.

They passed the claims involving Wakefield council to the West Yorkshire Police fraud squad. Fraud squad detectives have set up an incident room at Pontefract police station and are understood to have interviewed a number of councillors. The details of the allegations have not been disclosed but are said to be unrelated to the murder inquiry.

In a statement issued yesterday, West Yorkshire Police said: "We are investigating alleged irregularities involving Wakefield Metropolitan District Council. The council is fully co-operating with the inquiry."

Colin Crossall, the council leader said: "We are not aware of any widespread corruption within Wakefield council. What we are aware of is an allegation of some irregularities. We are fully supporting the police with their inquiries into this matter."

## Mandelson is denounced as vulgar visitor

By Gabriella Giamini and Nicholas Watt

PETER MANDELSON may have ambitions to follow in his grandfather's footsteps as Foreign Secretary, but he will need a few lessons in diplomacy, judging by his performance during an official visit to Brazil.

The Minister without Portfolio was denounced as a "vulgar propagandist" after he cast aspersions on the country's left-wing presidential candidate.

In a breach of the golden rule that ministers steer clear of internal politics, Mr Mandelson dismissed Brazil's Workers' Party as "backward and retrograde". He was quoted in the O Globo newspaper as saying that the election of the party leader, Inacio "Lula" da Silva, in October would be a "step backward".

Mr Mandelson, who met the Workers' Party during his five-day visit, said: "I don't think Lula has a vision like Blair or other progressive leaders. I think Lula represents a backward and retrograde view and that his ideas are not consistent with the modern centre left."

Asked what the international reaction would be to a left-wing victory in the presidential election, Mr Mandelson said that there would be "surprise but stranger things had happened". His remarks infuriated the coun-

try's Workers' Party which denounced Mr Mandelson as "offensive and ignorant" and sent a letter of protest to Tony Blair. A statement from the party said that his comments "provide evidence of a colonialist mentality which is ridiculous in the context of the decadence of the old empires".

During his visit Mr Mandelson lavished praise on President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who invited him to Brazil last year. Mr Mandelson, who was promoting a Portuguese version of Mr Blair's book, *New Britain: My vision for a Young Country*, which has a foreword by the President, said: "Fernando Henrique (Cardoso) has given considerable status and prestige to Brazil. People would be surprised if he did not manage to stay on as president. He is a world leader who is creating a model to be followed by other countries. He shares the values of modern centre left parties."

Mr Mandelson yesterday stood by his remarks. In a statement issued on his return to Britain, he attacked "the old wing" of Brazil's Workers' Party for criticising him. Downing Street also rallied to Mr Mandelson's defence, saying that he had been careful not to intervene in Brazil's presidential election.



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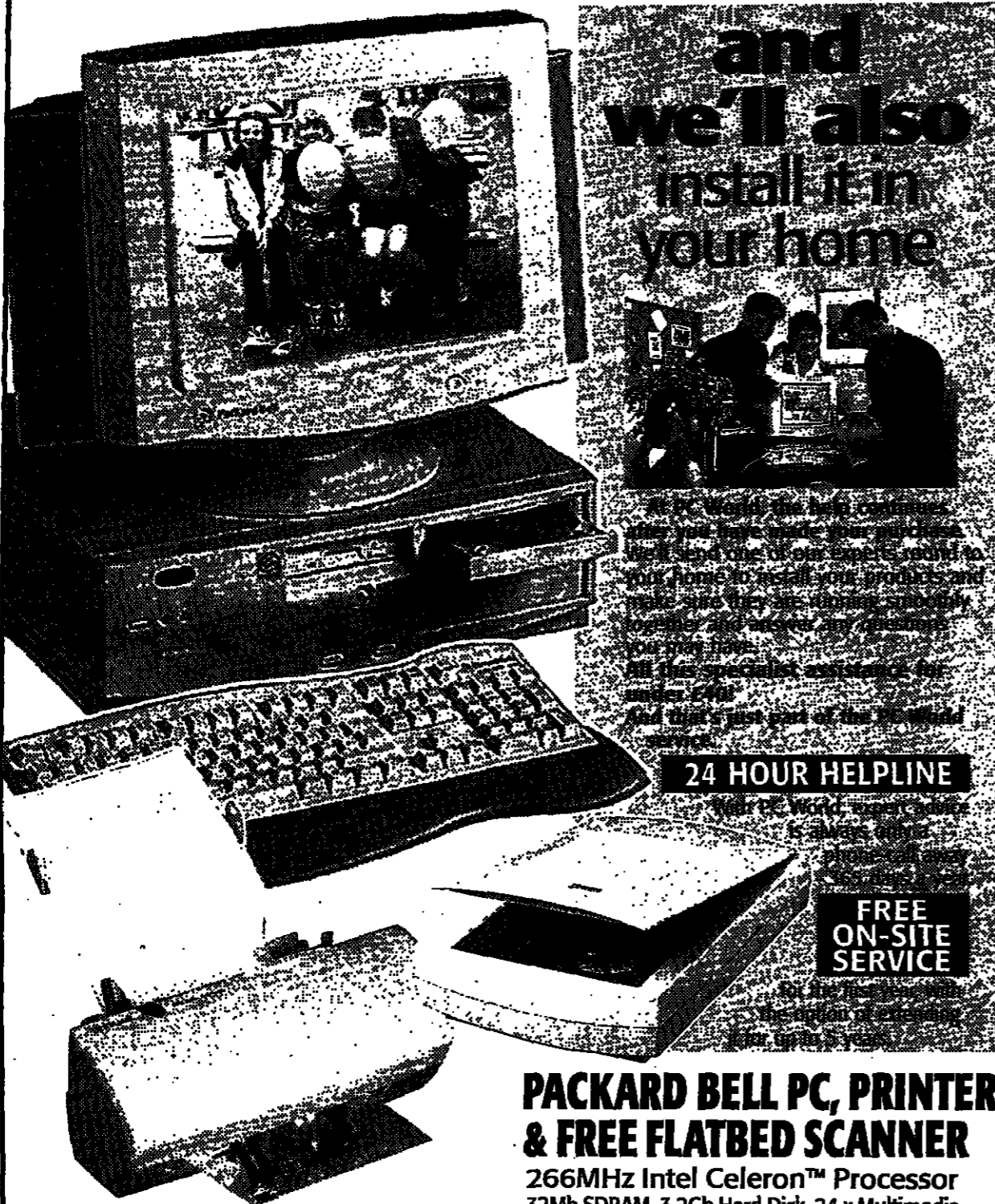
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# Sellafield told to cut emissions to near zero

THE Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant must drastically cut its radioactive discharges to the sea under measures to reduce emissions from nuclear facilities agreed by European environment ministers yesterday.

Environmentalists said the "historic" deal spelt the end of reprocessing at the power station in Cumbria, but its operator, British Nuclear Fuels, said it would continue, albeit with more stringent controls.

The agreement binds Britain and France to reducing emissions from nuclear plants to "near zero" by 2020. But it carries the key rider that this will be based on "technical feasibility".

In what appears to have been a deft piece of political brokering, John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, has pulled off a compromise that seems to have kept his green credentials intact, placated the critical countries, satisfied the nuclear operators and delighted the Greens.

Greenpeace read the agree-

## Prescott says deal will still allow the nuclear plant to continue operating. Nick Nuttall reports

ment as meaning that, by 2020, the only technically viable option will be to halt reprocessing and store all waste and spent fuel on land. Sarah Burton, of Greenpeace, said: "The political decision taken is that reprocessing will end and no new reprocessing plant will be built in Western Europe. That is what the Dames and the Norwegians believe. That is why they are so pleased."

But British Nuclear Fuels said the compromise meant Sellafield would stay open and its 5,000 jobs remain secure. It hopes it can develop cleaner technology to cut back pollution. A spokesman said: "It is demanding and challenging but we wish to work with the Government to achieve it."

BNFL had previously said that a near-zero target was

impossible to achieve at Sellafield, an installation that accounts for 76 per cent of man-made radioactive pollution locally.

The Government has ordered BNFL to give ministers a plan within the next 18 months on how it will achieve the cut-backs.

The Sintra statement, named after the Portuguese town where it was signed, emerged after an all-night sitting of the Oslo Paris Commission at which ministers from 15 European countries also agreed to ban the dumping of all-steel oil rigs. No more of the giant concrete platforms, such as Norway's Troll, will be allowed in the North Sea.

Ministers agreed that all footings up to 10,000 tonnes will have to go along with the

superstructure. The move, which goes further than measures announced by the Government last week, has further dismayed the UK Offshore Operators Association. It means that all but 26 rigs will have to be totally removed.

Ministers agreed to work to end all discharges of hazardous substances, including those that mimic the female hormone oestrogen, by 2020. They backed a labelling scheme for consumer goods that will list chemicals used in manufacture.

Sian Pullen of the World Wide Fund for Nature said yesterday that the scheme, for which a start date has yet to be decided, would certainly "give consumers more information and choice about the environmental impacts of goods".

Ministers also agreed to draw up a list of marine areas in the northeastern Atlantic to get special protection because they are vital for species such as dolphins, whales, coral and seabirds.

Letters, page 21

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Man dies in failed bid to revive friend

Two men who were friends and work colleagues have died from heart attacks within minutes of each other — one while trying to resuscitate the other.

George Taylor, 45, collapsed while working on a house extension in Burnley, Lancashire. William Heston, 51, who came down a ladder from the roof to find his friend on the floor, suffered a heart attack as he tried to revive him with mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Post-mortem examinations are being carried out.

### Cracker casualty

The company credited with inventing the Christmas cracker in 1847 is to close with the loss of 175 jobs. Tom Smith Crackers of Norwich, which supplies the Royal Family, blamed the closure on the loss of a major customer.

### Grenade found

Thorpe Park in Surrey evacuated staff and delayed opening by an hour and a half when a First World War hand grenade was found in a picnic area of the tourist attraction. Soldiers removed the grenade, which had no fuse.

### Drivers in picture

Photocard driving licences were launched yesterday, bringing Britain into line with the rest of the EU. The plastic credit-card-sized licences, bearing the driver's photograph, will gradually replace the paper document.

### Anarchists win

Saxon Burchall-Wood, Noel Molland and Stephen Booth had their convictions for encouraging readers of the Green Anarchist paper to commit sabotage overturned by the Court of Appeal. They served four months in jail.

### Welcome bounty

A sword once owned by William Bligh, Captain of HMS Bounty, fetched £8,400 at auction in Penzance, Cornwall, to an anonymous telephone bidder. It was sold by Falmouth and Penzance Sea Cadets.

### CORRECTION

The wax mask worn by Byron at the Ravenna Carnival (report July 20) was given to the Keats Shelley Memorial House in Rome not by the present Lady Clarke, but by the former Lady Clarke, now Virginia Surtees.



Easy rider: Richard Rodriguez clocking up more hours on the Big Dipper

# Rollercoaster champion reaches new heights

BY MARIA ALVAREZ

The only way was up for the holder of the world record for the longest rollercoaster ride yesterday after his Canadian rival dropped out of the reckoning.

Richard Rodriguez set himself the target of staying on the Big Dipper at Blackpool for 1,000 hours to strengthen his hold on the title after his challenger, Normand St Pierre, stopped riding after 670 hours on Le Monstre coaster at La Ronde, Montreal. Mr Rodriguez's own previous world record was 549 hours, set in 1994.

Mr Rodriguez, 39, a lecturer from Miami, has clocked more than 770 hours at Blackpool, and will have to keep riding until August 3 to reach his target. He sleeps on the wooden rollercoaster for about six hours, and takes a breakfast and a shower.

Ladbroke's said it had declined to offer odds on his chances after finding that he had always succeeded in previous attempts. "The man is just phenomenal," a spokesman said.

Aching, sore and windburnt, Mr Rodriguez said yesterday that the exposure on the Big Dipper was like riding in an open-top car from Florida to Alaska without stopping. "It gets cold and it wears you down," he said. A diet of fish and chips, hot dogs and pasta is sustaining him.

Mr Rodriguez, who lectures in communications, started breaking rollercoaster records to overcome his fear of amusement park rides. At 19, he set a world record by completing 103 hours and 55 minutes on the Cyclone in Coney Island, New York.

Riding the Big Dipper for 1,000 hours would cost £37,300: each ride costs £2.10 and there are 18 rides an hour.

Mr Rodriguez said he may be tempted to return after reaching 1,000 hours if someone should want to break his record. "I don't want to say never because everytime I do I'm back riding again."

# Scientists find perfect golf swing

BY GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS claimed yesterday to have uncovered the formula for the perfect golf swing.

After studying the techniques employed by the world's leading professionals, Alan Turner has encapsulated the winning formula on a computer program that was unveiled at the 3rd World Scientific Congress on Golf at St Andrews University.

With his colleague, Nick Hills, Professor Turner used computers to calculate the precise proportions of the ideal swing, taking into account the weight of the player's arms, the weight of the clubs, the rotation of the hips and shoulders and force of the hands. By adapting Isaac Newton's second law of motion, which describes how forces acting on an object cause it to accelerate, a set of equations has been drawn up that work out the perfect swing. Golfers who want to modify their movements to perfect their own swing can feed in their personal details and use the results to hone their skills.

Yesterday Professor Turner, head of the Thermo-Fluid Mechanics Research Centre at Sussex University, admitted that his formula is complicated but he said it should benefit golfers as they prepared to hit the ball. "I hope it will change pre-shot thinking on the game and provide a better understanding of how to improve performance," he said. "So many golf lovers want to know how to play a longer and straighter shot and the program should help them to achieve this."

Another tip that Professor Turner came across when he was examining the swing of golfers such as Tiger Woods and Greg Norman was to alter the angle of the chin. "The secret of a good swing technique is to point the chin a little way behind the ball before lifting the club.

"Then the golfer should try to hit the ball keeping both elbows near to each other and the arms as close to the body as possible," he said.

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# The Queen orders tribute to Diana

### Daniel McGrory on the decision to fly flags at half mast on August 31

THE Queen has ordered that flags should fly at half mast next month to mark the first anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

She took the unprecedented decision after asking Prince William and Prince Harry how they wanted the country to mark their mother's death. Tony Blair was told of their request and he agreed that all public buildings would lower their flags on August 31.

Yesterday Buckingham Palace said that the decision applied to this year only. "This is no precedent, but a recognition that this is a special occasion because it is the first anniversary of the Princess's death," a spokesman said.

Mindful of last year's public criticism of the Royal Family, the Queen held a meeting at Windsor Castle to decide what they should do next month. She consulted the Prince of Wales, his two sons, the Duke of Edinburgh and other senior members of the family about "an appropriate response".

The young princes did not want an official day of mourning, a minute's silence across the country or the tolling of church bells, which some politicians and churchmen had suggested. They asked for some national recognition of their mother's death but with the "minimum fuss".

The flags on almost all royal residences will be lowered. The only exception will be Balmoral where the Queen and the Prince of Wales and his sons will spend the anniversary. A Palace spokesman said: "The Royal Standard is the flag of the monarch and so is never at half mast. Even in the event of the death of the present monarch it is never lowered."

At the time of the Princess's

death the Queen, who was at Balmoral, agreed that the Union Flag should fly at half mast over Buckingham Palace. This breaking of protocol followed a public outcry over what was seen as the Royal Family's failure to mark the death with a display of public mourning. Until then no flag had been flown at the Palace when the Queen was not in residence, but the Union Flag has since been flown there at all times.

On the anniversary the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and Princes William and Harry will attend private family prayers at Craithie Church, Balmoral. Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, will be guests at Balmoral and will join the Royal Family at the church service. A private service of remembrance will be held for members of the Royal Household and the Princess's former staff at St James's Palace.

□ The Prince of Wales has appointed Elizabeth Buchanan, 36, a former aide to Baroness Thatcher, as an assistant private secretary to help to run his youth, community and environmental interests (Alan Hamilton writes). Miss Buchanan will work at St James's Palace on a two-year secondment from her present employer, the public relations firm Bell Pottinger.

Palace officials emphasised yesterday that the appointment of Miss Buchanan, who was a special adviser to the Tory former Cabinet ministers Paul Channon (now Lord Kelvedon) and Lord Parkinson was non-political and that her job would not involve communications strategy or spin-doctoring. She replaces Jonathan Skan, a City banker who returns to Barclays Bank.



CARL RUTHERFORD

# Bottled nun may prove too blue for the North

A CIRCUS performer wearing only a nun's headdress, whose antics aroused shocked protests during a recent tour of the Republic of Ireland, is to repeat her act in the North of England.

Misha squeezes herself into a small glass jar and repeats her nun impersonation while swinging above the arena of the adult-only Circus of Horrors.

"Being a nun and being naked means my act is certainly controversial," Misha said. "It caused a storm in Ireland but I think most people enjoy it. It's good fun."

Michael Higgins, the Irish Arts Minister, was criticised after seeing the show in Galway.

The British circus is now back on home ground and is expected to be seen by up to 12,000 people during a 12-show run at the Stockton International Riverside Festival on Teesside.

Other acts include Gary Tiplady, at 7ft 4in one of the tallest men in the country, the Hungarian motorcycling midget Fitchu, who stands on his head while eating worms and drinking blood; and the Amazing Wasp Boy, a sword swallower with a 16in waist. Misha is joined on stage by the "vampire" Mercia, who hangs high above the circus arena held up only by her raven hair.

The circus's leader, who is known as Haze, said: "We get more and more popular all the time. We have been invited to perform all over the world. No other British circuses can say that I got into this because I was fed up with the traditional circus. Everything we do may look shocking but it is really done in a humorous way. Everything we try to do is very much tongue in cheek."



Misha limbers up by squeezing herself into a glass jar before appearing at the Stockton festival last night. Right, at full stretch

# Disgraced Haughey facing two years in jail

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

CHARLES HAUGHEY, the disgraced former Irish Prime Minister, faces up to two years in prison after being charged with obstructing the course of justice.

Mr Haughey, 72, is to appear before Dublin District Court next Thursday to answer charges that he hindered a tribunal investigating €1.3 million in secret payments made to him by a supermarket tycoon.

Mr Haughey at first denied receiving the money but later admitted the crime and to misleading the tribunal. Justice Brian McCracken, chairman of the tribunal which sat in Dublin Castle last year, devoted an entire chapter of his final report to Mr Haughey's money and time-wasting behaviour and referred the matter to the Director of Public Prosecutions. Two summonses were served on the former Taoiseach at his home in Kinsealy, Co Dublin, on Tuesday at the end of a seven-month police investigation.

Mr Haughey, who once commanded enormous power and respect, enjoyed in a lavish lifestyle, moving between his Dublin mansion, privately-owned Kerry Island and 50ft yacht. He is now on the brink of financial ruin.

Mr Haughey, who was three times Prime Minister until his forced resignation in 1992, was charged under the Irish Tribunals of Inquiry Act which carries a maximum penalty of two years in prison and/or a €10,000 fine.

His lifestyle had always been a source of mystery. The €1.3 million in three payments from Ben Dunne, former chairman of the Dunnes Stores retail chain, is believed to be only a small part of illegal and secretive payments he received from various businessmen.

The Fianna Fail-led Government has set up a second investigation into its former party leader, asking Justice Michael Moriarty to investigate all payments over €500 received by Mr Haughey during his 40 years in politics.

# Television 'giving wrong idea about childbirth'

BY ALEX O'CONNELL

MEDICAL experts are concerned at the misleadingly melodramatic way that childbirth is portrayed on television.

A study by a lecturer at the Department of General Practice at Guy's Hospital, found that out of 93 depictions of childbirth broadcast on British television during 1993, four babies and one mother died, and four babies and five mothers experienced life-threatening complications.

Sarah Clement said in her study, published in the *British Medical Journal*, that television portrayed labour as being an unpredictable and rapid process. She said nearly half of fictional births happened in unexpected places, without professional help or the intended companion.

"In a typical fictional programme, labour is heralded by the waters breaking; the mother then clutches her abdomen as powerful contractions start. There is often a chaotic rush to the hospital — will she get there on time?"

Ms Clement continued: "Once in hospital, the mother is surrounded by doctors, often gowned and masked. Labour is generally drug-free and interventions are rare. We see relatively little of the first stage of labour — either because it is short or because in long labour the camera

### HAVING A BABY WITHOUT THE DRAMA

- 1 per cent of babies are seen to be induced on television; the actual rate is 22 per cent.
- 6 per cent of women need epidurals on television; in reality the rate is 18-22 per cent.
- 35 per cent of women are shown to need episiotomy on television; the actual rate is 33 per cent.
- On-screen, 33 per cent of babies are delivered prematurely; off-screen the rate is 5.8 per cent.
- 4 per cent of births are multiple on-screen; 1 per cent off-screen.
- On-screen the maternal death rate is 1 per cent; off-screen it is 0.0007 per cent.

tends to focus on the tense relatives in the waiting room, rather than the woman."

Ms Clement also pointed out that birth on television differed from real life in that the use of painkillers was rarely shown. "The images of childbirth viewers see are not an accurate reflection of labour and delivery in Britain today."

An actual birth was first shown on British television in 1957 — preceded by a warning to the public. The newspapers described it as revolting and tasteless.

These days, many characters in television soap operas seem to be giving birth, often in alarming or unlikely circumstances. Fiona Middleton, from *Coronation Street*, went into labour a month early. In *EastEnders*, Tiffany Mitchell had to be rushed to hospital by her estranged husband Grant, and the fictional Courtney was

not breathing when she was born. Last year *Emmerdale's* Emma Cairns had a baby at the age of 15.

The actress who plays Gita Kapoor in *EastEnders* left the show in January to have her second child. Scriptwriters covered her absence by deciding that Gita was holed up with her baby in a seedy bedsit.

In *Neighbours*, Daphne Clarke had her child at a lakeside during a picnic, managing to keep her dungarees on throughout. Luckily, the local doctor was present.

Sven Murphy, of *Inside Soap* magazine, defended those who write and make soap operas: "It is difficult to show a realistic birth because in real life it can go on for 24 hours, so they condense time — that's the nature of drama. People don't want three episodes watching people huffing and puffing."

# Suspended surgeon protests innocence

BY GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A SURGEON who was suspended amid allegations that he operated on women with suspected breast cancer without first conducting routine diagnostic checks claimed yesterday that he had no case to answer.

Douglas Irving, 51, was asked to leave Stracathro Hospital near Brechin, Angus, last week by Angus NHS Trust after his colleagues raised concerns about his treatment of about 150 breast cancer patients. It is claimed that in some cases Mr Irving breached medical guidelines when he failed to carry out basic pre-operative procedures including taking mammograms and tissue samples.

Mr Irving said he had received almost 100 letters of support from former patients and staff. "I am very worried that my patients will not have the confidence or faith in me they had in the past. I feel very sorry for all of them," he told a local newspaper.

Mr Irving added: "I am suspended, but I have no case to answer. An audit is being carried out but at the moment there is nothing to say that anything is wrong."

More than 400 of Mr Irving's patients have called a helpline set up last week. Twenty-eight women who were treated by the surgeon for breast disease will be assessed by cancer specialists. □ An independent review to investigate concerns raised by Channel 4 News about a consultant thoracic surgeon was ordered by Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, yesterday. The programme claimed that Joe Rahamin had no postgraduate qualifications, and was the only chest surgeon in the country with no higher surgical training.

Mr Rahamin has been a specialist surgeon at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, since 1992 and has operated on up to 8,000 patients. The Department of Health said the review would also look at thoracic surgical services at the Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust.



Tiffany Mitchell in *EastEnders*, left, and Fiona Middleton of *Coronation Street*

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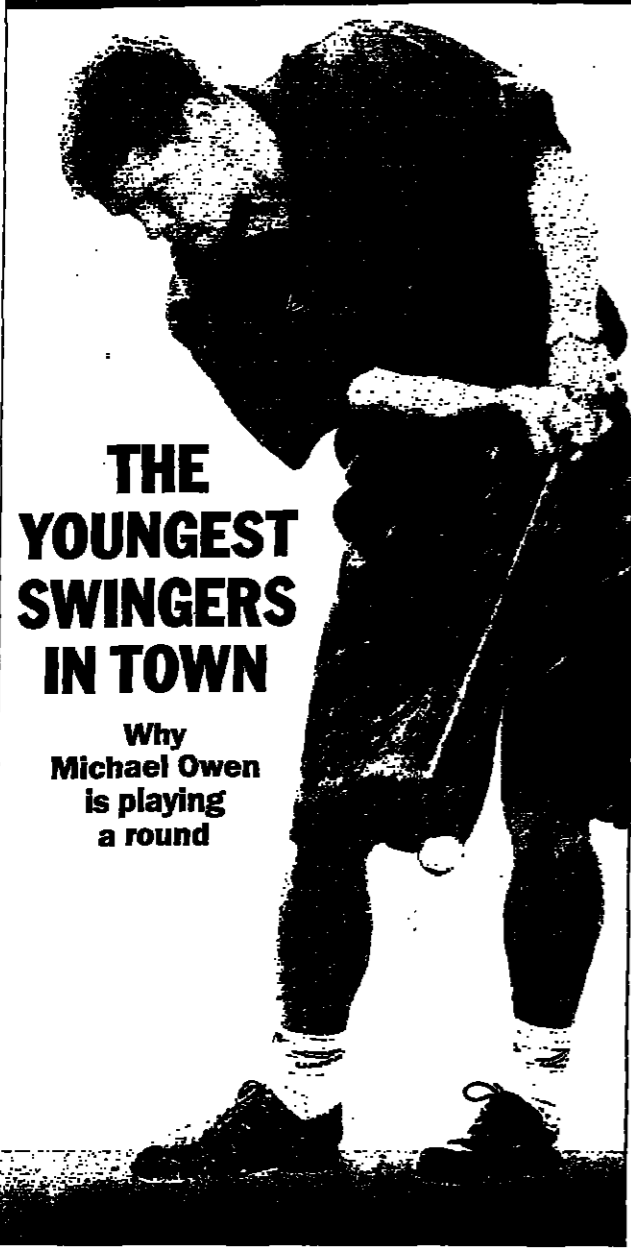
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THE TIMES ON SATURDAY



THE YOUNGEST SWINGERS IN TOWN

Why Michael Owen is playing a round

Blow that killed football fan was caught on video

Gillingham supporter admits manslaughter after he lashed out after the match, reports Richard Duce

THE parents of a 24-year-old football fan killed by a punch to the head could not watch when a police video showing the moment their son died was played in court yesterday.

Maidstone Crown Court was told that a single blow to the back of the head felled Matthew Fox, and he was dying as he hit the ground outside Gillingham Football Club in Kent. His killer, Barry Cullen, had not realised the damage he had inflicted until he was arrested the next day. He had replied "You're joking" when told he was wanted for murder.

The video, played repeatedly in slow-motion, showed the instant when Cullen, 30, lashed out at Mr Fox after a match between Gillingham and Fulham. Neither Mr Fox's father, Ian, a printer, nor his mother, Pam, from Purley in South London could watch. Mrs Fox was in tears.



Cullen: "devastated" for victim's family

The video, played repeatedly in slow-motion, showed the instant when Cullen, 30, lashed out at Mr Fox after a match between Gillingham and Fulham. Neither Mr Fox's father, Ian, a printer, nor his mother, Pam, from Purley in South London could watch. Mrs Fox was in tears.

ing at the Gillingham football ground.

Friendly banter between rival fans at the start of the game had degenerated when Gillingham scored their decisive second goal close to the end. Coins and plastic bottles had been thrown across the dividing fence. Mr Fox, known to fellow Fulham fans as Foxy, had left the ground and cut through an alley that brought him out where rival supporters were leaving. Mr Miskin said that Mr Fox, also a printer who lived with his parents, was with a group of 20 Fulham supporters. "It seems fair to suggest that some, if not all, of the Fulham fans were bent on some kind of confrontation."



Matthew Fox, who died instantaneously from a punch to the back of his head

close to Gillingham station, gave his name and address on video to a police surveillance cameraman. He had appeared good humoured and to have no inkling that he had killed someone. As part of the inquiry, all video evidence had been gathered at Chatham police station, and it had led to Cullen's arrest the next day. Yesterday he denied murder but admitted manslaughter. His plea was accepted by the prosecution and he will be sentenced in October.

In his statement to police, Cullen described leaving the ground and seeing scuffles outside between rival supporters. He told police: "Outside were 20 Fulham fans who were looking aggressive. A number of fans from Gillingham and Fulham were scuffling." He went on: "I was scared and panicked, there was so much screaming and shouting. I saw people fighting all round me and felt disorientated and punched a Fulham fan who was in front of me. I cannot recall what this person looked like or whether he was looking at me. I threw the punch and he fell to the floor, but at that time I did not think he was injured."

I am to the man's family and loved ones." Cullen is understood to have received death threats while on remand in prison and the judge, Mr Justice Penry-Davey, ordered that his full address should not be published. Detective Chief Inspector Chris Sparks, who headed the police inquiry, said later: "This was a tragedy that should never have happened. Our sympathies go to Mr Fox's family. This case demonstrates the compelling value of video evidence. We were able to capture the incident that cost Mr Fox his life. Had it not been for the video evidence this inquiry could have been long-running."

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Inquest to be held on 'lady of lake'

THE husband of the teacher Carol Ann Park, whose body was found in the Lake District last year, is to give evidence at an inquest into her death. Gordon Park spent four months accused of her murder. The bound body of Mrs Park, who was 30 when she disappeared in 1976, was found in Conistone Water nearly a year ago. Mr Park, 54, a retired teacher of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, was accused of killing his wife before the Crown Prosecution Service dropped the charge because of insufficient evidence. Mr Park told police he had last seen Mrs Park at their home at Leese, near Barrow, when they had been due to take their three children on a day trip to Blackpool. But Mrs Park stayed behind. The inquest on Mrs Park will be held on September 7. Cumbria police said the investigation into Mrs Park's death was still open.

Soldiers jailed over drugs plot

A GANG of drug smugglers that included serving and former members of the Royal Regiment of Artillery were jailed yesterday for periods ranging from nine to 17 years. With two civilians, they had plotted to bring millions of pounds of drugs into the country from the Continent. Jailing the men at Liverpool Crown Court, Judge Bryn Holloway said: "It is particularly depressing to find that many of you were members or former members of a highly respected regiment of the Royal Artillery" - the 39th, based at Aldermarke Barracks, near Newcastle upon Tyne. David Turner, QC, for the prosecution, said: "For a number of years soldiers of a distinguished regiment abused their position and brought dishonour on their regiment. Instead of protecting the country they provided a cross-frontier transport system and brought heroin, cocaine and ecstasy from Amsterdam to Liverpool." Gunners Paul Bromley, 30, and Peter Jackson, 29, were each jailed for 17 years, as was Peter O'Toole, 26, a civilian of Liverpool. Gunner Dale Mills, 26, and Bombardier Kevin Jones, 31, received 16 years. Former Gunner James Bull, 29, of Skelmersdale, Lancashire, was jailed for 13 years; former Bombardier Paul Wright, 29, of Liverpool, for ten years; Gunner Billy Stott, 20, for nine years; and Darren Williams, 27, a civilian from Ellesmere Port, for five years. Bull, Jones and Mills were convicted last week of conspiring to smuggle heroin, cocaine and ecstasy. They denied the charge. O'Toole, Bromley, Jackson and Williams admitted it and conspiring to import amphetamines. Stott and Wright admitted being involved in the smuggling.

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# Big companies sink pirates of the Internet

TWO men banned by a High Court judge from trying to make money by registering famous names as Internet websites yesterday failed to lift the legal block on "net piracy".

In a landmark ruling awaited by Internet users in Britain and the United States, the Court of Appeal ruled that to register a distinctive Internet domain name could amount to passing off and a trade mark infringement.

Richard Conway and Julian Nicholson had registered domain names such as Marks & Spencer, Virgin, the Spice Girls, Buckingham Palace and The Times. The idea, they said, was to try to sell the names to those companies.

But in the Court of Appeal in London yesterday Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Aldous ruled that the deputy High Court Judge Jonathan Sumption, QC, had been right to grant injunctions against their business last November.

BT, Marks & Spencer, Ladbroke, J. Sainsbury and Virgin were granted the injunctions after the judge said: "The threat of passing off and trade mark infringement, and the likelihood of confusion arising from infringement of the mark, are made out beyond argument."

Yesterday Richard Penfold, a solicitor with Harbottle & Lewis who advised Virgin in the case, said the ruling would be a "powerful deterrent to those engaging in this activity in the UK and may also prove useful in attacking similar activities such as registering

**A company that tried to sell branded domain sites has lost its appeal, reports Frances Gibb**

famous brands as company names and the grabbing of valuable vanity telephone numbers.

Mark Elmslie, head of intellectual property at Finers, who acted for Mr Conway and Mr Nicholson, said that their clients would study the judgment to decide whether to appeal to the House of Lords. In the meantime, the ruling would be carefully studied by all involved in registering domain names, in particular Nominet UK [which allocates domain names in the UK] and the Internet service providers.

"The findings make clear that anyone who placed on the domain name register what the court described as a 'distinctive name' was liable for being accused of passing off. This has obvious implications for the Internet community at large," Mr Elmslie said.

In their appeal against the injunctions, Mr Conway and Mr Nicholson denied that their scheme was intended to deceive, infringe trade marks or make money by "passing off" as the companies included in their website names. Dismissing their appeal, Lord Justice Aldous ruled:

"The domain names were registered to take advantage of the distinctive character and reputation of the marks. That is unfair and detrimental." He also believed that the names registered by the appellants were "instruments of fraud".

The domain names registered by the men included thetimes.co.uk. They did not tell the companies or individuals that they were registering the domain names at a cost of £150 but then wrote to Burger King offering the name burgerking.co.uk for sale or hire for £25,000 plus VAT, saying that otherwise it would be available for sale to any other interested party.

Two years ago *The Times* registered its domain name as the-times.co.uk.

Mr Conway and Mr Nicholson argued that their actions were no different to those who stockpiled old car numbers or bought plots of blocking land to sell to developers.



Lord Tebbit and Martin Bell were among those campaigning outside the Northern Ireland Office yesterday for the release of two soldiers serving life for the murder of a Belfast teenager. The former Cabinet

minister and the Independent MP, who is patron of the campaign, want the Northern Ireland Secretary to recommend the release of Mark Wright and James Fisher, who were jailed in 1992 for killing Peter

McBride, 18, as he ran from a foot patrol. Lawyers have applied for a judicial review to bring forward the review of their sentences, and Mo Mowlam could intervene. Mr Bell said he believed the soldiers could be

released soon. "The Northern Ireland agreement changed the landscape," he said. "These men have spent a quarter of their lives in jail and they are being treated as common criminals, which they are not."

## Mutiny averted as ships remain 'she'

BY ADRIAN LEE

A PROPOSAL to end the custom of referring to ships as "she" has provoked a near-mutiny among seafarers.

When *Lloyd's List*, the newspaper for the shipping trade, tested the waters of political correctness by suggesting that vessels should take the neutral "it", the editor was inundated with protests from around the world. Of the letters, e-mails and faxes arriving at the City office of the 264-year-old daily newspaper, not one was in favour of changing the gender of a ship.

Captain Fred Boer, who e-mailed the paper from mid-ocean, declared: "As long as

ships of every size and type require lots of paint to look good they will be referred to as "she", at least by me."

The newspaper finally announced that it would uphold tradition, rather than try to change with the times. Leigh Smith, the editor, said he was pleased that the idea had been scuppered. "It was not something I supported, but we are the bible of the shipping industry and decided to float the idea."

The Royal Navy said: "Ships are normally referred to by their name, or simply as the ship. They are Her Majesty's Ships, so I suppose they could be female."

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# BMA wants extra NHS cash used for 50% pay rise

### Doctors tell Dobson recruiting pledge will fail without incentives in cash and conditions, writes Ian Murray

DOCTORS must have a 50 per cent pay rise and better working conditions if Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is to keep his promise to recruit 7,000 more for the NHS, their leaders told him yesterday.

"We just don't know where these doctors are supposed to come from," Ian Bogle, the new chairman of the British Medical Association, said. "About 3,500 qualified GPs were no longer working in medicine but they had to be persuaded to return."

"We are ready to help to attract them back but I regret to tell the Government that it will require us to revisit the pay issue," Dr Bogle said.

Doctors need a 50 per cent rise just to bring them up to the salary level of comparable professions. It was unrealistic to expect it to be offered all at once, so the BMA would be looking for a 10 per cent increase in each of the next five years.

Money alone would not attract doctors back into the profession, he said. Flexible hours, childminders and part-

time working would all play a part.

Mr Dobson's promise to provide an extra 7,000 doctors raised more questions than it answered, Dr Bogle said after a meeting of the BMA council to discuss the £2 billion extra money for the NHS in the Comprehensive Spending Review.

"It acknowledges the need for more personnel but this has to be extra and has to be targeted," he said. "We need to know at what level doctors will be put into the system. We need more GPs and consultants, not more junior doctors, other than those who come in with consultants."

The only other way to find more doctors would be to recruit them from overseas. "This would be totally unacceptable if it was doctors not qualified in this country," he said. "We have done it before and it doesn't work."

"It would be wrong to denude countries that are trying to build up health services and deny them their doctors. We need to produce in this country the doctors we need to run the NHS."

The General Medical Council, which approves the qualifications of all doctors allowed to practise in Britain, has been registering more from abroad than from Britain each year since 1993.

Last year, 3,920 British-trained doctors were added to the register, compared with 3,678 who qualified outside the European Union and 1,860 from within it.

Letters, page 21



Bogle: said flexible hours and childcare needed



Robert Edwards with twins conceived through in-vitro fertilisation. He believes that cloning could lead to better IVF conception rates

# Pioneer urges cloning for infertile women

By MARK HENDERSON

DOCTORS should be allowed to clone human embryos to help infertile mothers conceive if research proves that the process is safe, the embryologist who pioneered the first test-tube baby said yesterday.

Robert Edwards, whose work with Patrick Steptoe, the gynaecologist, led to the birth of Louise Brown - who celebrates her 20th birthday tomorrow - said that cloning could lead to better conception rates from in-vitro fertilisation (IVF). The worst ethical problem he envisaged was the birth of

artificially created identical twins, he told doctors at St George's Hospital in Tooting, South London.

Professor Edwards was giving the hospital's annual Patrick Steptoe memorial lecture, set up after his research partner's death ten years ago.

Women whose infertility stems in part from a shortage of eggs could be particularly helped by cloning, he suggested. An embryo would be fertilised in-vitro and then cloned, to give doctors more embryos to implant and a greater chance of conception. Only young embryos, of no larger than four cells, should be cloned, and

no more than a handful implanted at a time. Any use of cloning for IVF would have to come after research to show that cloned embryos grew naturally and were safe, he said.

"If you were to get identical twins as a result of that, is that really unethical?" Professor Edwards asked. "Provided the research shows, five years down the road, that cloned embryos grow normally and there are no hitches, surely we should be allowed to consider it for the benefit of a patient."

Doctors involved in fertility treatment needed to beware of the black-

and-white ethics of "abominable notions" who refused to contemplate contentious medical advances he said. The early IVF programme produced amid hostility from many doctors, and had been refused funding on ethical grounds, but has led to the births of more than 400,000 children to infertile couples in 20 years.

Cloning human adults was not an ethical or desirable option, he said. He also criticised many IVF practitioners for giving patients too many drugs to stimulate ovulation and implanting too many embryos to try to improve conception rates.

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## Lung cancer death rate affected by radiation

LUNG cancer patients have a far greater risk of dying if they are given radiotherapy after surgery to remove a tumour (Ian Murray writes).

A study of 2,000 cases, published in *The Lancet* today, found that those given radiation therapy had a 21 per cent higher risk of dying than those treated with surgery alone. The patients were suffering from non-small-cell lung cancer, the most common form of the disease.

The best hope of a cure is to remove the tumour but this is possible for about only one patient in five. Many patients then have radiation therapy in the hope of destroying any remaining cancer cells.

An international team, led by Lesley Stewart of the Medical Research Council unit, Cambridge, has drawn together all the details from the existing trials to create a single study. This shows significantly more deaths among those given radiotherapy.

## GPs win appeal on dispensing of drugs

THE legal requirement that a qualified pharmacist must be in attendance in every chemist's shop in the country may end as a result of a Court of Appeal ruling yesterday.

The court refused to outlaw the practice of rural doctors delegating drug-dispensing roles to unqualified staff.

The case centred on private pharmacies in Westliffe, Kent, Beverley, East Riding and Caistor, Lincolnshire, where local GPs' surgeries - because of their rural location - have been granted the right to dispense drugs to patients who live more than a mile from the nearest pharmacy.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, ruling for the doctors, described the pharmacists' arguments as absurd. "While I accept that there is obviously a public interest in the safe supply of medicinal products, there is also a public interest in controlling the cost of the National Health Service," he said.

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# Family goes home to its castle after 600 years

By PAUL WILKINSON

MEMBERS of a family that can trace its history to the Norman conquest gathered at the old family seat in Northumberland yesterday. More than 40 Umfrevilles travelled from all over the world to Prudhoe to see the 12th-century castle their forebears first occupied exactly 600 years ago. They came from America, Canada, Australia and Britain for a seminar to discuss the family's history, renew old acquaintances and forge new ones. Dr John Umfreville, a retired scientist who organised the reunion, said: "I'm pretty

excited about this. It fulfils a long-held dream, not only for myself, but many others with family connections who have been researching their Norman ancestry."

The family name comes from a village in Normandy. Robert d'Umfreville was part of Duke William's invasion force in 1066. His services were rewarded with a grant of land in Redesdale, north-west of Newcastle upon Tyne. In about 1100 he was created Baron of Prudhoe, which lies midway between Newcastle and Hexham.

By 1150, his first timber fortification had been replaced by a stone castle that passed down through the generations. However, the family's tenure came to an end after Gilbert Umfreville, the third Earl of Angus, was killed in battle. His widow, Maud, married Henry Percy, scion of another noble North of England family that also came over with William the Conqueror. When Maud died in 1398, the estate passed to her new husband's family, better known today as the Dukes of Northumberland. Dr Umfreville, who lives in



John Umfreville said the family reunion he organised had fulfilled a long-held dream. Prudhoe Castle had "drawn us like a magnet"

Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, said: "Prudhoe Castle has drawn us like a magnet. This castle withstood two sieges and even held the king of Scotland at one time." He said the family was once bigger than the Percys and played a major role in the defence of the area.

Among the family members at yesterday's gathering was David Umfreville, 54, from Essex, who said: "This is only a small proportion of the people. It's just great to see

them, considering they have come from all over the world."

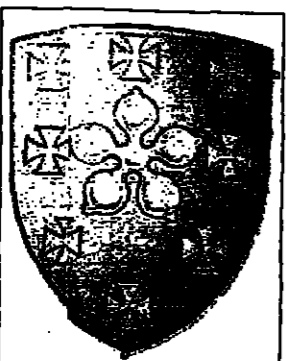
One North American branch was founded by Edward Umfreville, who went to Canada with the Hudson Bay Company in 1771. He was imprisoned by the French, ransomed home, and then launched his dynasty with a marriage to a Cree Indian. Later he returned to Birmingham and raised another family.

Another branch in America

altered the family name to Humphreville. They only found out about their forebears after one of the New Zealand line posted details of the reunion on the Internet. James Humphreville, from Connecticut, said: "It's nice to meet people, even if they are very removed. My family has been in North America since 1670, so I'm the tenth generation. The people here are probably twelfth or fifteenth cousins, several times removed."



Umfreville relatives came from far and wide



The family coat of arms

# Drowned crew had inaccurate forecast

THREE fishermen who died in a storm were not wearing lifejackets, had received an inaccurate weather forecast, and were in a vessel that could not cope with the adverse conditions, an official accident report said yesterday.

The *Gorah Lass*, which was lost in March 1997 off Portreath in north Cornwall, had no lifeboat and the way she was designed, equipped and loaded meant she was not suitable to operate safely in the prevailing wind and sea conditions, the Marine Accident Investigation Branch said.

The bodies of William Pirie, 40, and Steven Cooper were recovered but the body of the skipper, Philip Benney, 39, was not. The men, from the St Ives area of Cornwall, were returning to port after a successful fishing trip.

The accident report said that four lifejackets, which were not fitted with lights, were recovered from the vessel still sealed in plastic bags; the vessel was swamped by one or more big waves which were unable to drain rapidly from the decks because of the state the 25ft boat was in; and the skipper's next of kin "were frustrated by the authorities' failure to search for, and recover, his body".

The report recommended that the Department of the Environment should consult with the marine community to form a policy on recovering bodies of seamen who are presumed dead. (PA News)

# Man who claimed to be murderer is shot dead

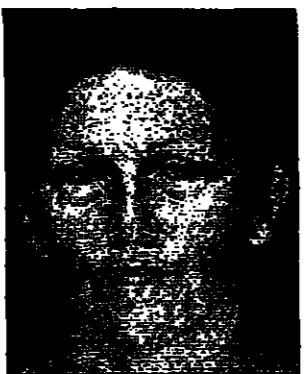
By JOANNA BALE

A MAN who was thought to have invented claims that he murdered five women was shot dead by his wife when he tried to strangle her.

British-born Russell Keys, 40, was killed in Phoenix, Arizona, on Tuesday, six days after leaving his Gloucestershire home to join his American wife Dominique in the United States. Mr Keys, 54, shot him in the chest after he attacked her during an argument.

Mr Kes, of Stroud, had been arrested and questioned by officer in Lancashire last month after saying that he had murdered five women. Detectives could find no evidence for his claim. One police source said: "We believe he was mentally unbalanced and was inventing these stories."

He threatened unsuccessfully to sell his story to *The Sun* and to two American tabloids after making written and tape recorded confessions. Lancashire police confirmed



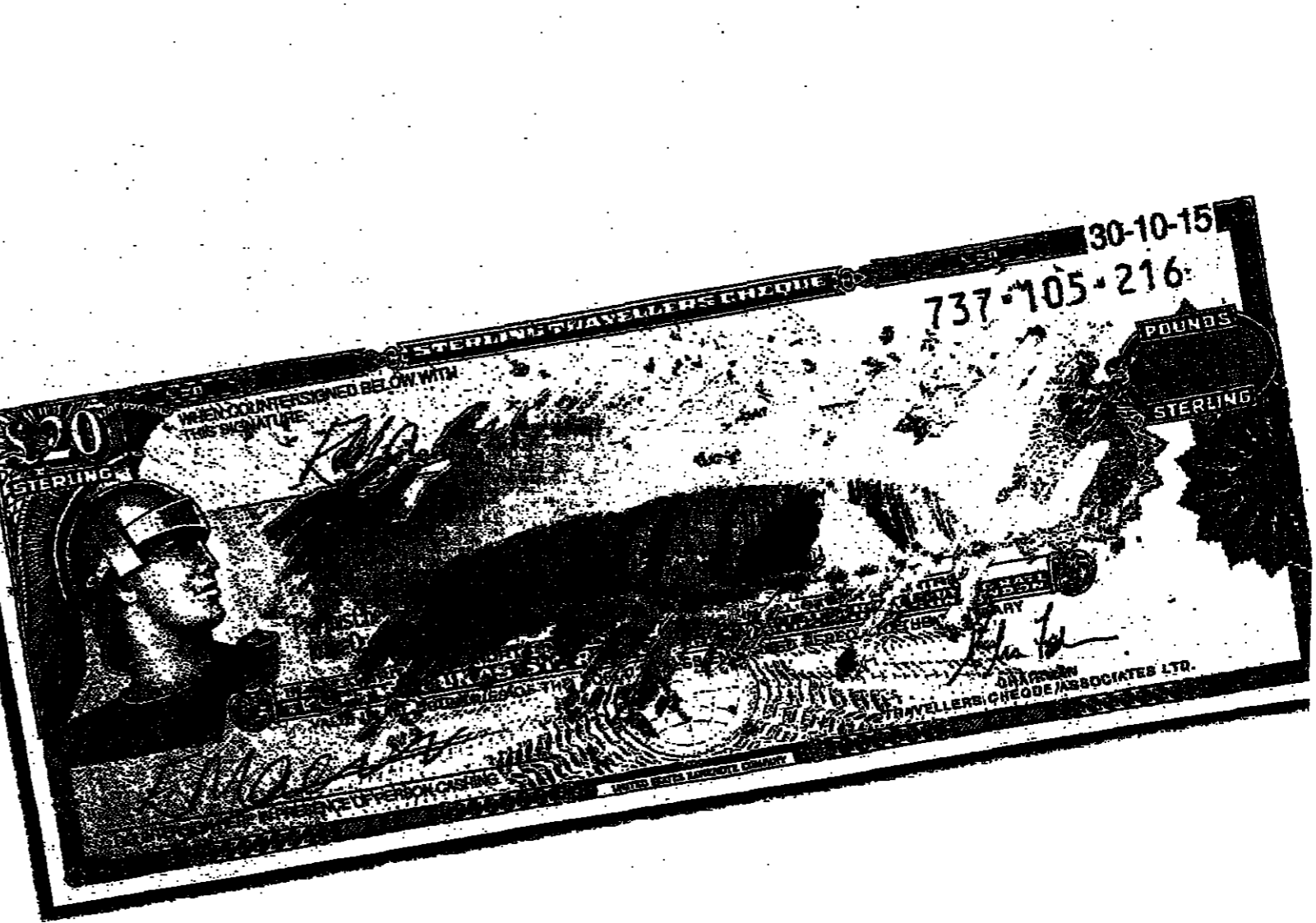
Dominique Keys was frightened of husband

that Mr Keys had been interviewed in Blackpool. A spokesman said: "Extensive inquiries failed to corroborate any of the information the police received. Mr Keys was released and at the time of his death no proceedings had been instigated against him, nor were any anticipated. We are liaising with officers from

Phoenix and will offer any assistance they may require." Mr Keys had said that he had buried the bodies of the five women at Blackpool beach and in the sand dunes at nearby St Anne's. He claimed that in the cases, dating back to 1987, he had killed women from Portugal, France and Morocco after they rejected his attempts to marry them and obtain new citizenship.

Paul Gilligan, at whose home the couple had been staying, said yesterday that Mr Keys had been applying for US citizenship. He had heard three shots and found Mr Keys dying from his wounds. Mrs Keys said she had not slept the previous night because she was afraid of him. US police are treating the case as a domestic violence-related homicide.

Mr Keys is thought to have described his "murders" to nurses at a psychiatric hospital, who then called the police.



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# Voters ready to back plans for Lords reform

Peter Riddell on a MORI poll finding that will dismay supporters of the constitutional status quo

THE public overwhelmingly supports reform of the House of Lords, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*, though few people know very much about the Upper House.

The poll was undertaken last weekend, before Wednesday's vote by the Lords against lowering the homosexual age of consent to 16. There is broad support for the idea of reform but it is probably not an election-winning issue for Labour.

Barely a fifth of the public (21 per cent) favour keeping things as they are, while 59 per cent support various schemes for changing its composition, and 12 per cent want to abolish the Lords. Some 8 per cent either favour no options or don't know. Among the change options, 11 per cent back removing hereditary peers with all new peers nominated by the Government; 23 per cent favour replacing the Lords with a new second chamber party nominated by the Government and partly elected; and 25 per cent want to replace the Lords with a new second chamber entirely elected.

However, just 16 per cent of the public (mainly the "char-

tering classes") feel they know a great deal or a fair amount about the Lords, while 81 per cent feel they know just a little or hardly anything at all about it. However, the proportion saying they know a great deal or a fair amount is less than in either 1991 (19 per cent) or 1995 (22 per cent).

The poll shows that those who know a great deal or a fair amount about the Lords are among the strongest defenders of the current House. Some 31 per cent of this group want to keep things as they are, as opposed to 21 per cent of the public generally and 18 per cent of those who know hardly anything or nothing about the Lords. By contrast, those who know least are the strongest supporters of change.

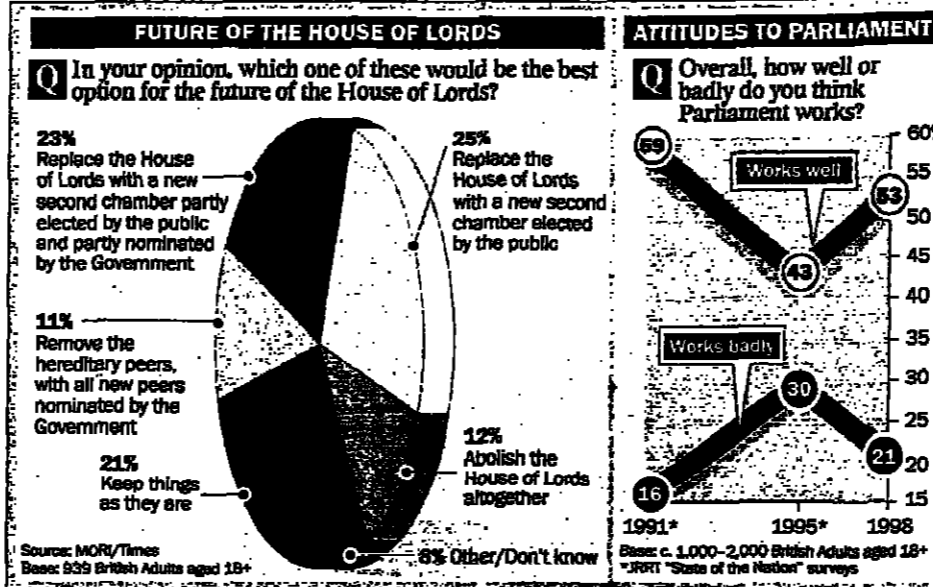
This is a double-edged conclusion. Defenders of the status quo may be more knowledgeable about the Lords but they remain in a small minority. The lack of deep knowledge among those favouring change implies that they are not heavily committed to any particular solution. This suggests that the Government has freedom of manoeuvre to sell its chosen package of reform.

Keeping things as they are

is backed by older people (33 per cent of pensioners against 18 per cent of those aged 18-24), the middle classes (24 per cent), and Tory supporters (34 per cent). By contrast, support for abolition of the Lords is highest among 35 to 44-year-olds, the working classes and those living in Scotland (25 per cent against 12 per cent nationally).

The poll points to some recovery in the standing of Parliament. The proportion thinking that Parliament works very or fairly well has risen from 43 to 53 per cent since 1995, though is still lower than the 59 per cent of 1991. The public's views of Parliament (and of the present system in Government in a poll in April) are closely linked to the popularity of the Government of the day and to levels of economic optimism. The sharpest rise in those thinking that Parliament works well has been among Labour supporters, those living in the Midlands and unskilled workers. Nonetheless, the decline compared with 1991 points to an underlying fall in its standing.

□ MORI interviewed 939 adults on July 17 to 21.



## Life peers alone would halt gay sex law change

By JAMES LINDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE House of Lords would almost certainly block any fresh attempt to reduce the age of homosexual consent even if hereditary peers were stripped of their voting rights.

Analysis of Wednesday night's overwhelming vote against reducing the age of consent from 18 to 16 shows that life peers on their own would have defeated the Commons. Peers voted by 290 to 122, a majority of 168, in favour of keeping the law as it is. On the basis of life peers alone, the Lords would have voted the same way by 129 votes to 93.

The vast bulk of peers who voted against the Commons were Tories, 189 in all, comprising 104 hereditary and 85



Callaghan: one of 24 Labour peers who defied the Commons

life peers, most of whom are regular attenders. This total is a good turnout but is by no means huge. Two weeks ago, a larger number of Tories (202) voted against plans for variable rates of tuition fees for students in Scotland. If

the Tories bring in the backwoodsmen, they can reach totals of 400 plus. On Wednesday night, about 300 Tory peers stayed at home.

Although it was a free vote, unofficial whipping was carried out by Baroness Young, a former Tory leader in the Lords, who was leading the campaign against a reduction in the age of consent.

Only six Tories voted for the reduction, including the former ministers Lord Biffen, Lord Newton of Braintree and Lord St John of Fawley.

In all, 24 Labour peers voted with Lady Young. They included Lord Donoughue, the Catholic Agriculture Minister, Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, Lord Longford, a former Leader of the Lords, Lord Clewley of Penrhos, a former Labour leader in the Lords, and Lord Cocks of Hertsfield, a former Labour Chief Whip in the Commons.

Lord Miskin, the peer who campaigned in the 1960s for the legalisation of homosexual acts between people over 21, also backed Lady Young. Other Labour peers who supported her were chiefly former ministers and MPs.

Some 73 Labour peers voted for a reduction in the age of consent, about half the party's 158-strong team in the Lords.

Lady Young secured the backing of 60 crossbench peers, including the former Commons Speaker Lord Weatherill. Only ten crossbenchers voted for a reduction.

Of the bishops who took time out from the Lambeth Conference to attend the debate, six voted against a reduction in the age of consent: Ely, Lichfield, Manchester, Ripon, Rockley, Southwell, Suffolk and Berkshire, and Winchester. Three bishops voted against Lady Young: Lincoln, Oxford, and Bath and Wells.

Many Liberal Democrats abstained, including Baroness Williams of Crosby. But 30 voted for a reduction to 16 and six voted against.

## Upper House will not yield to strategy of soundbites

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

THE guillotine is being sharpened; the turnbrels are being rolled out; excitable Labour backbenchers are eagerly preparing for mass executions. But Bastille Day looks like being postponed. Yesterday's messy manoeuvring over Wednesday's vote in the Lords against lowering the age of homosexual consent from 18 to 16 underlines how reform of the Upper House is full of traps.

At present, the Lords is within its constitutional rights, and recent practice, to ask the Commons to think again, as it will on Tuesday. But it was nonsense for Lord Stoddart of Swindon, the increasingly maverick Labour peer, to claim that it was "a democratic right under the constitution". The general assumption is that ultimately the will of the Commons will prevail, though in this case there are pressures of time with the approach of the recess. But as the recent row over tuition fees for students at Scottish universities showed, there is no consensus about how far the Lords should press its objections, and therefore how long the game of ping-pong can last.

Any change to the membership of the Lords is, however, likely to increase its sense of its own legitimacy. The furious reaction of many Labour MPs to Wednesday's vote was complicated by the fact that Lord Callaghan of Cardiff and 23 other Labour peers were against changing the law. That robbed the anti-Lords lobby of the soft target of hereditary peers.

The ever-alert Tony Benn pointed out that, even if hereditary peers had not existed, the vote would still have gone the same way since a majority of life peers voted against lowering the age of consent. For Mr Benn, that showed the problems of patronage. He has recently put forward a parliamentary reform Bill providing for a wholly elected second chamber. However, David Winnick, another veteran Labour left-winger, argued that an elected second chamber would undermine the authority of the democratically elected Commons. What political and moral authority would the Commons therefore have for opposing decisions by such a

reconstructed Lords? Precisely. The future of the Lords cannot be examined in isolation from the Commons.

For many Labour MPs, Wednesday's vote provides proof, if it were needed, of the case for reform. The latest MORI poll in *The Times* points to overwhelming public support for change. A mere fifth of the public want to keep things as they are. On the whole, the public seems more committed to the principle of change than to any particular reform option, where views are divided. However, remarkably few people — a mere sixth of the public — feel they know a great deal or a fair amount about the Lords. So much for the warnings that the Tory leadership has been making in recent months. The poll suggests both that Lords reform is unlikely to be an election-

winning issue for Labour and that the Government has considerable freedom of manoeuvre to lead the public behind the reform option it favours.

However, just on ten favours the Government's interim solution of placing hereditary peers in a wholly nominated House. But nearly half the public wants an element of election, either in combination with some nominated peers or in an entirely elected House. If this happened, Mr Winnick's comment would become pertinent. This is not a matter of giving the Lords new powers, but rather, of the Upper House exercising its existing powers more fully.

Labour ministers have not yet been willing to discuss these issues publicly. But they need to do so if they want to get Lords reform through. Bashing hereditary peers is easy soundbite politics. It is not a long-term strategy.

PETER RIDDELL

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# Princely villa awaits the Blairs

A 50-room Tuscan idyll with tennis courts and vineyard is awaiting the family from No 10, writes Richard Owen in Cusona, Tuscany

AT THE sleepy Tuscan estate of Prince Girolamo Strozzi, the ancient stronghold of one of Italy's oldest wine-producing dynasties, staff yesterday were beginning to prepare for an event that will put Cusona firmly on the map: the arrival in just over a week of Tony Blair and his family.

For the past two summers, Mr Blair has stayed on the estate of Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster-General, at nearby San Gimignano. But, apparently because of the embarrassment caused by repeated inquiries into Mr Robinson's financial affairs, Mr Blair has opted for an alternative 50-room Tuscan idyll. In many ways the change is to his advantage; both estates boast a swimming pool, but the thousand-year-old Strozzi estate also has private tennis courts which Mr Robinson's property, Il Mucchio, does not.

Mr Blair and his family will almost certainly make good use of the swimming pool in the grounds of the Strozzi villa in the current Tuscan heat, which is making even the sunflowers in the surrounding fields wilt. Staff at the villa reply with a careful but amiable "it seems so" when asked if the British Prime Minister is arriving on August 1. But yesterday Italian telecommunications technicians arrived to install five new secure telephone lines "for Signor Blair" just as they have for the past two years at Mr Robinson's estate.

Mr Blair, who is on record

as admiring Italian wine, food and culture, will be able to enjoy the famous local white wine produced by Prince Strozzi, known as Vernaccia. Ivaldo Volpini, the Prince's chief wine expert, said it is a vigorous straw-coloured wine that is "dry, soft and harmonious, with solid body and excellent length on the palate".

The villa, which has a four-storey stone tower, is reached by a winding dirt road and overlooks rolling cypress-covered hills and vineyards stretching towards the picturesque town of San Gimignano — known to British expat residents as "San Jimmy" — which is besieged by tourists at this time of year because of the striking medieval towers that dominate the skyline.

Prince Strozzi and his wife, Irina, who traces her descent from the Romanovs, the Russian imperial family, live at Cusona during the summer with their two daughters, Natalia, 21, and Irina, 16. In addition to managing his 1,200-acre estate, the Prince teaches international law at Florence University.

The Strozzi are widely liked in the area for their hospitality and met the Blairs last summer while the Prime Minister and his family were staying on the Robinson estate. In addition to sampling Vernaccia with the Strozzi, the Blairs are expected to go to nearby Siena to attend a rehearsal of the Palio, the famous Siena horse race.

La Nazione, the local newspaper, noted yesterday that



Prince Strozzi with his wife and daughters outside their Tuscan villa where the Blairs, right, at the start of their Italian holiday last summer, will be retreating this year for wine, tennis and relaxation

Mr Blair was not the only British Labour visitor to Tuscany this year. Neil Kinnock, Mr Blair's predecessor as Labour leader and now EU Commissioner for Transport, is to spend the summer at a villa at Santa Lucia, close to the residence of Franco Nencioni, the left-wing Mayor of San Gimignano.

The paper said Mr Kinnock would be welcomed even

though he is at odds with the Italian Government over a proposal to reroute a number of international flights from Rome to Milan's second airport at Malpensa, which Mr Kinnock said lacks the necessary infrastructure. Ugo Pasqualetti, the former Mayor of San Gimignano, said Mr Kinnock had a more Mediterranean temperament than Mr Blair.



# Downing Street denies holiday snub to Robinson

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR and Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster-General, will be on holiday in Tuscany at the same time next month, within walking distance of each other.

The timing of the visits has underlined the suspicion in Whitehall that the Prime Minister has delivered a humiliating snub to Mr Robinson, whose Tuscan villa has been the Blair family holiday home

for the past two years. While Mr Blair and his family relax on the estate of one of the most influential families in Florence, Mr Robinson will be out of the spotlight up the road at his ten-acre Il Mucchio estate at San Gimignano.

The snub theory was further underlined when neither Downing Street nor the Treasury could confirm whether Mr Blair and Mr Robinson were planning a social call.

They have plenty of dates to

choose from. The multimillionaire is spending most of August at his £3.5 million estate. Mr Blair and his family will be near neighbours for ten days.

Downing Street strongly denied that Mr Blair had spurned Mr Robinson because the Treasury minister's business links with the late Robert Maxwell had become the subject of a Commons investigation.

"It is not a snub," said an official. "The Prime Minister will have more privacy at this villa." The overseas

parazzi, said Downing Street, had refused to heed pleas for privacy and the new location was less accessible to outside eyes. "The security arrangements are better," added the official.

The arrangement also has another advantage. Mr Robinson was embarrassed when it was revealed last year that he had failed to list his estate, complete with an olive-oil-making facility which is used to pay the local peasant workers, in the MPs' register of interests. No such

stigma is attached to the aristocratic residence the Blairs have chosen this year.

Whitehall sources denied that Mr Robinson had arranged the stay at his neighbours' to spare the Prime Minister the embarrassment of accepting his hospitality only a week after he was rebuked by the Commons watchdog for failing to declare two paid directorships.

"It is simply not true. Geoffrey Robinson had nothing to do with the arrangements," said an official.

## WORLD IN BRIEF

### At least 100 dead in European floods

Vienna: The death toll rose in floods in at least three countries in Central Europe yesterday, with more than 100 feared dead in one deluged area of Slovakia alone. A year after floods the region, torrents were also reported in Poland and the Czech Republic and large areas of farmland were under water in Hungary.

Four people died in southern Poland and two in the Czech Republic. In eastern Slovakia, rescuers were working in about a dozen villages north of the country's second city, Kosice. They found 35 bodies and 70 more people are missing. Television showed children's bodies stuck in the debris of houses swept along by the torrents. (AFP)

### Scouts drown off Brittany

Paris: Rescue teams searched the Brittany coast for survivors after a sailing boat full of French Scouts capsized, leaving at least four Scouts dead, French radio reported. Two people were still missing after the boat overturned with seven on board off the wind-blown coast overnight. Witnesses said that the teenagers, from the Paris area, lacked supervision. Three of the Scouts were found alive by rescue teams. (AP)

### Subway plot 'to burn Jews'

New York: A Palestinian immigrant was convicted of plotting to explode a pipe bomb in a crowded subway station in a Jewish area of Brooklyn. Gazi Ibrahim Abu Mezer, 24, faces a life sentence. Prosecutors said he planned the attack last July to "burn the Jews" and win freedom for six Arab militants imprisoned in the US and Israel. A second man was acquitted of plot charges but convicted of carrying an illegal green card. (AP)

### Protest by jailed Briton

Lipjane: Sally Becker, right, the British aid worker imprisoned for a month last week for Serbia for illegally entering Kosovo, has begun a hunger strike. "I am not eating, I am not drinking, I am protesting against this war, against women and children dying," she said. Becker, the "Angel of Mostar", was speaking to reporters on a visit organised by Serbian authorities to her prison here, near Kosovo. (AP)



### Troops to blow up lagoon

Vanimo: The Papua New Guinea military plans to blow up the lagoon that became a grave for thousands of tidal wave victims. Colonel Tokam Kanene said it was impossible to retrieve more bodies because they had decomposed to a stage where they could not be lifted in one piece. He added that hundreds more were coming to the surface. The sandbar separating the lagoon from the sea would be bombed to allow currents to flush remains out to sea. (AFP)

### Castro attacks illness 'lie'

Miami: President Castro of Cuba dismissed reports that he is suffering from a brain disease caused by high blood pressure as "a huge lie from head-to-toe", possibly designed to distract attention from exiles' attacks against the island (David Adams writes). "Proof of my physical state lies in all the activities I carry out," he said after a typical 15-hour working day. Approaching his 72nd birthday next month, he said he was "surprised at how well I feel".

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## Railtrack Group PLC Annual General Meeting 1998

The Annual General Meeting of Railtrack Group PLC was held at the G-Mex Centre, Manchester on Tuesday, 21st July 1998. The Chairman, Sir Robert Horton, called for a poll on every resolution. The results of the polls were as follows:

Resolution	For	Against
1. To receive the Report and Accounts	152,968,877	76,526
2. To declare a final dividend	152,815,725	25,577
To re-elect as directors:		
3. Mr Norman Broadhurst	152,517,658	276,787
4. Professor Brian Mellitt	152,518,279	275,270
5. Miss Jennifer Page	152,314,024	476,218
To re-appoint as directors:		
6. Mr Gerald Corbett	152,470,814	322,696
7. Mr Roderick Mutzram	152,534,623	259,740
8. Sir Philip Beck	150,805,097	606,132
9. To re-appoint Deloitte & Touche as auditors	148,224,798	1,314,379
10. That the Articles of Association be amended	151,596,016	513,002
11. That authority be granted to allot shares	151,515,470	807,533
12. That pre-emption rights be disapplied	151,561,184	762,396
13. That the Articles of Association be amended	151,702,378	411,833
14. That authority be granted to offer shares instead of a cash dividend	153,176,805	529,753

Accordingly, resolutions 1 to 9 inclusive and resolution 11 were passed as ordinary resolutions and resolutions 10, 12, 13 and 14 were passed as special resolutions.

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# Cambodia rivals flex their poll muscles

Opposition leaders Prince Ranariddh and Sam Rainsy are drawing huge crowds but Hun Sen has a powerful organisation, writes James Pringle

TO HIS bodyguards' horror, Sam Rainsy, the Cambodian opposition candidate, stripped to his shorts, plunged into the muddy and treacherous Mekong River and swam several hundred yards to the other side in a feat reminiscent of Mao Zedong's epic swim in the Yangtze in the 1960s.

"This shows I am a strong man who can overcome all obstacles," the former Finance Minister laughingly told villagers as he clambered up the far bank to ask for their vote.

Elsewhere Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the former Co-

Prime Minister deposed in a bloody coup a year ago, is doing his best on the hustings to copy the speech and mannerisms of his father, the popular King Sihanouk. The Prince is hoping to make a comeback to power in Sunday's general elections.

Hun Sen, the real power in the country, is given to touring villages where he touts his Government's achievements on the number of schools and bridges that have been built. Then he recites one of his poems, which states that when he is around there is water in

the canal, but when he is far away the canal is dry.

Visiting a work project last week, the 47-year-old leader seized a spade and began digging. That evening he had to be taken to hospital to undergo an appendectomy.

If it were not for the dark undertones of violence that have plagued Cambodia after 29 years of unremitting war, the election campaign could be quite entertaining, one diplomat noted yesterday.

In all, 39 parties are contesting 122 seats in the national assembly. Their campaign

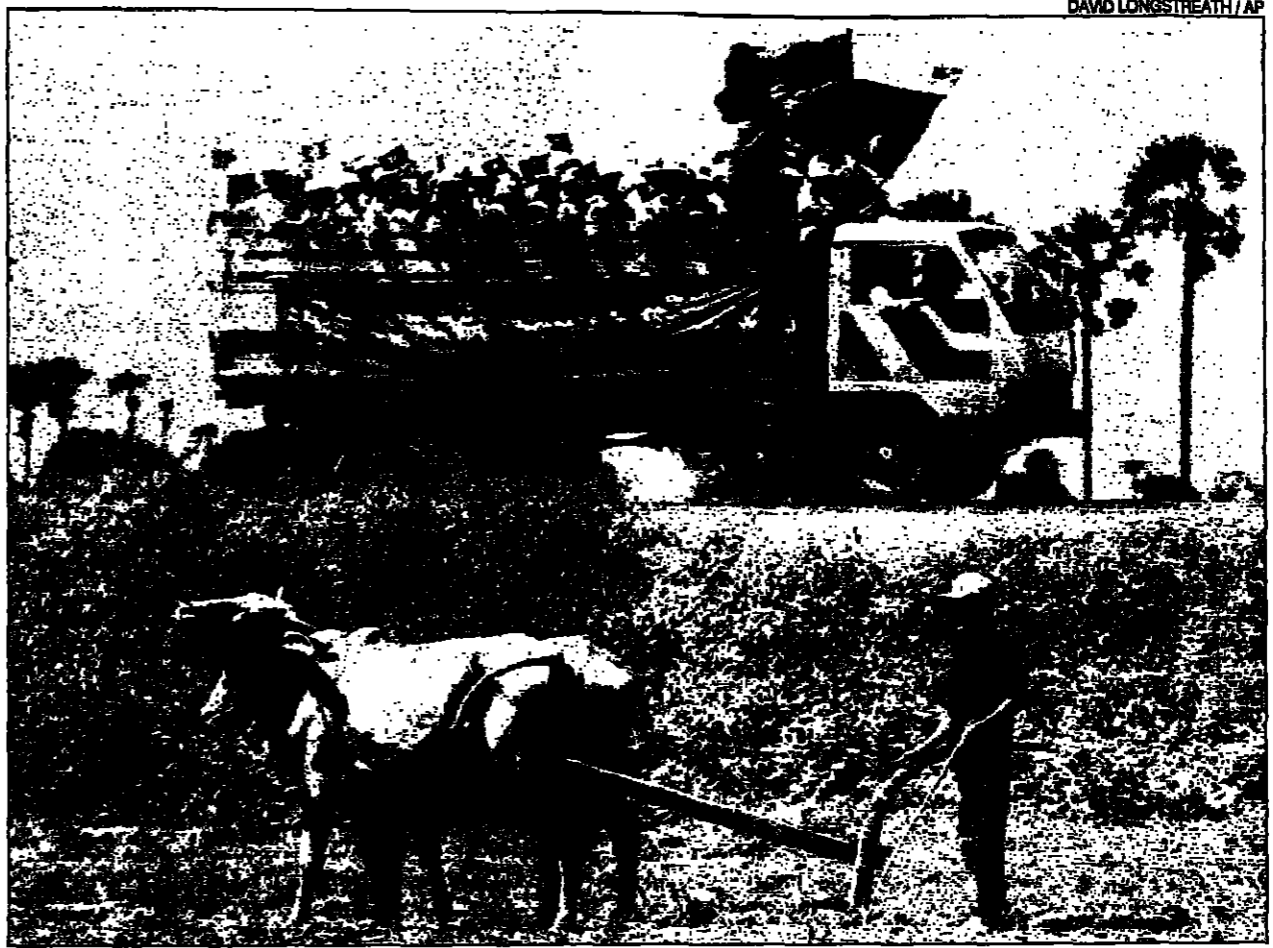
screaches loudly in Phnom Penh as lorries broadcast noisy messages about the candidates. Trees are festooned with grinning portraits of hopefuls.

Since the campaign began late last month, violence has been minimal. Relieved diplomats say it has "not been as bloody as we feared". One observer said: "It is not a level playing field, but a lot of the anticipated violence has not happened." He said incidents of violence were much higher in the last polls.

Mr Rainsy alleges that the poll will be rigged by Mr Hun Sen and calls it a "farce with a foregone conclusion". Diplomats say it will certainly not be free and fair, but that it might be more acceptable than previously thought.

Prince Ranariddh portrays himself as the innocent victim of the coup and also emphasises his royal links. But his father, living in a small palace near the ruins of Angkor Wat, seeks to present himself as above the fray.

"We have to choose between a communist party and a monarchist party," Prince Ranariddh tells rallies, referring to Mr Hun Sen's former communist Cambodian Peo-



A lorryload of supporters mobilised by Hun Sen's party for the election on the road near Oudong yesterday

## EU will monitor pre-poll violence

Phnom Penh: Glensy Kinno, the European Union's top election observer in Cambodia, said the EU would take pre-poll violence and intimidation into account in assessing the country's voting. Mrs Kinno visited several polling stations in Kompong Cham province, northeast of Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital. The EU has provided Cambodia with electoral assistance worth £7.25 million and is sending more than 200 observers. (Reuters)



Glensy Kinno yesterday at a polling station in Chup

ple Party (CPP) and his own Funcinpec royalist party. Both Mr Rainsy and the Prince are drawing crowds in thousands to their rallies and their strong showing is worrying the CPP.

In the capital, meanwhile, nervous residents are stocking up on rice and other staples in case of unrest after the election.

Prince Ranariddh's party won the most seats in Cambodia's last election in 1993 but was forced into a coalition with Mr Hun Sen and the CPP. Since Mr Hun Sen deposed Prince Ranariddh last July, Cambodia has been an international pariah. Foreign investment and tourism have almost dried up.

Neither Prince Ranariddh nor Mr Rainsy is an angel. By claiming that Mr Hun Sen is a puppet of Vietnam, which put

him in power in 1979, the opposition leaders are playing the racist card, human rights groups say. They have called on the two political leaders to stop inciting hatred against Vietnamese settlers.

Western envoys are afraid that the rhetoric of the two opposition candidates could trigger "ethnic cleansing" against the Vietnamese.

Yet there is a sense that the CPP cannot lose because its Leninist network reaches everywhere. It is likely to win a third of the vote, enough to block any rival coalition and ensure that it forms part of the next government.

"This is the full stop of international involvement," one foreign analyst said. "If the Cambodians do not get it right this time, the world will turn its back on Cambodia."

## Kenya set to deport British conman

FROM DAVID ORR IN NAIROBI

A BRITISH conman faces deportation by the Kenyan Government for peddling bogus medical treatment to dying AIDS and cancer patients. Basil Wainwright, whose illegal activities were exposed by *The Times* last year, is under investigation by police and the authorities have ordered all centres offering his untested treatment to be closed.

Mr Wainwright, 64, said 90,000 people had benefited from his free help, but the Kenyan Medical Association said dying people had been charged between £5,000 and £12,000 per course of therapy. "Some people have died miserably because of this man," Khama Rogo, the association chairman, said. "He's been giving false hope to very sick people. He's also been fleecing people of their money. We want to make sure he ends up in prison where he belongs."

A police spokesman said: "If he is found to have broken the law, he could be prosecuted or thrown out of the country."

Mr Wainwright, who also

goes by the name Dr Stone, received a three-year jail sentence in 1983 for defrauding Noel Edmonds, the television performer, of £70,000 in a phoney powerboat scheme. In 1990 he was jailed for four years in the United States for running an unlicensed medical practice and selling fake equipment which, the American authorities believe, earned him up to £1 million.

"It is particularly worrying that Mr Wainwright has chosen to mislead the public while fully aware his research protocols were scientifically invalid," Jackson Kalweo, the Health Minister, said.

Several clinics have been providing Mr Wainwright's unorthodox therapy, which involves a highly reactive gas called polyatomic oxygen. Blood is drawn from a patient's arm, passed through the gas and injected back into the arm.

Mr Wainwright said the campaign against him was motivated by "professional jealousy".

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Visa Primary	1.83%	25.8%	27.7%

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14

# Minister in Basque 'dirty war' faces 13 years' jail

FROM GILES TREMLETT IN MADRID

SPAIN'S former Socialist Interior Minister, José Barriónuevo, has been sentenced to 13 years in prison for taking part in a dirty war against Eta, the armed Basque separatist group, according to a Supreme Court judgment leaked to Spanish newspapers.

Barriónuevo, who is still a parliamentary deputy, and Rafael Vera, the former junior minister responsible for state security, have both been found guilty of ordering and funding the kidnapping of a suspected Eta leader in southern France in 1983, according to *El País* and other newspapers.

The sentences, expected to be announced next week, provided the first direct proof that the Socialist Governments led by the former Prime Minister, Felipe González, waged a dirty war against Eta.

Twenty-eight people were killed in the bombings, shootings and kidnappings carried out during the three-year "dirty war" that ended in 1986. The campaign was carried out by the underground Anti-Terrorist Liberation Groups (Gal), which eventually

would kill 28 people, about a third of whom had nothing to do with Eta.

Barriónuevo, who had not received official confirmation of his sentence yesterday, is likely to become the first former Spanish Cabinet minister sent to jail since democracy was restored in 1975.

A spokeswoman for the Supreme Court said yesterday that the sentences could not be confirmed until the judgments were made official. "That may happen in the next few days," she said.

Newspapers reported that the sentences had been approved on Wednesday by seven to four among the Supreme Court judges.

The Socialist Party spokesman, Antonio Pérez Rubalcaba, expressed concern that the judgment had been leaked to the press before it was official. "We still believe José Barriónuevo and Rafael Vera are innocent," he said.

Barriónuevo, Vera and ten police and security officials found guilty of taking part in the kidnapping can now appeal to Spain's highest legal chamber, the Constitutional Court. Experts said an appeal would not prevent them from being sent to jail immediately, once the sentences were made public.

The trial, which came after several of the police involved decided to give evidence against their former chiefs, revealed how Spain's Socialists tried to counter Eta as the separatists carried out more than 200 killings in the mid-1980s. Several of the police said the idea had been to force the French Government to act against Eta members living openly in southwest France.



Barriónuevo: ordered kidnapping in France



A visitor to the Munich Alte Pinakothek gallery viewing Albrecht Dürer's Paumgartner Altar - Geburt Christi, restored after a vandal had splashed acid on the work

## Parliament plans to derail the European gravy train

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE days of rich pickings for MEPs are to come to an end under a scheme, drafted this week, that will force them to join the rest of the working world and submit travel claims based on what they spend.

However, the proposed rules, designed to quash the European Parliament's reputation for high living on lavish perks, leave largely untouched a series of lump-sum allowances worth thousands of pounds a month.

Critical MEPs said the planned reform, produced under pressure from EU leaders and the European Court of Justice, fell short of the full-scale overhaul that was needed to clean up the Parliament's

gravy train image. Edward McMillan-Scott, leader of the British Conservative group, said the leadership was "rushing to a piecemeal solution" before an October summit on EU reform.

The Strasbourg assembly voted last month to reform the system, but members from the poorer regions are resisting a clampdown on perks until EU leaders agree to raise their salaries, which are fixed at the level paid to the national MPs of each state.

In addition to salaries, the Parliament pays £255,000 per member each year in allowances, staff costs, perks and pension contributions.

The big revolution in the plan, drafted by Richard

Balfé, a British Labour MEP, is to reimburse the 626 MEPs only for the real cost of their travel, in line with standard practice in business and public service. At present, MEPs enjoy a flat mileage rate in excess of first class air fares, enabling them to top up their income with regular trips from their home states to Brussels and Strasbourg.

The plan does little, however, to dispel concern about other allowances. These include £2,280 a month for general expenditure and £7,000 a month for secretarial assistance. Members will also continue to receive £165 a day for each day they are working on parliamentary business away from their home state.

## Cannes drinking bout pushed Depardieu way over the limit

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE'S most famous film star, Gérard Depardieu, was given a three-month suspended prison sentence yesterday for crashing a motorcycle when five times over the drink-driving limit.

Depardieu, 49, admitted he had been "enormously" over the alcohol limit when he fell off his motorcycle near Versailles soon after midday on May 18. He broke a leg and had to postpone the filming of *Astérix*, his latest film project.

"I had drunk a fair bit of alcohol the previous night at Cannes [film festival] ... everything there was champagne and so on ... In fact, I behaved like a Russian peasant [muzhik] and at such times I no longer know what is happening," he said.



Depardieu: "I behaved like a Russian peasant"

In addition to a three-month suspended jail term, the hard-living actor was

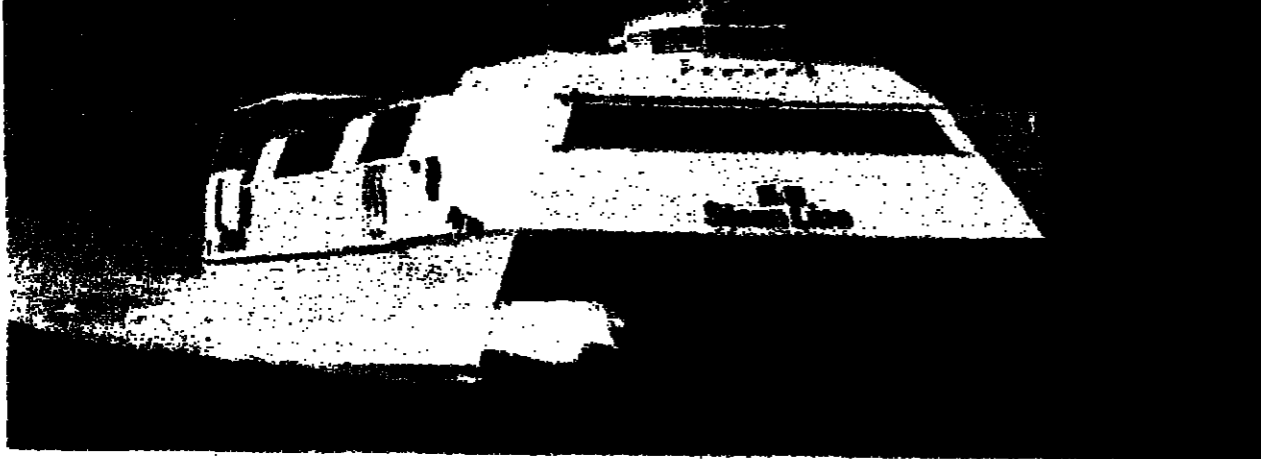
fined Fr10,000 (£1,000) and lost his driving licence for 15 months. Prosecutors had demanded a licence suspension of at least 18 months.

A blood test found 255 grams of alcohol per litre in his blood. The French legal driving limit is 0.5 grams of alcohol per litre and the actor conceded that the level of alcohol in his blood had been "enormous".

He said that he had gone to bed about 3am and slept for four or five hours "at most", believing that he would sleep off the effects of the drink. "I would never have imagined that so much alcohol would remain in my system ... If I had had the slightest doubt about my state, I would never have taken to the road," he told the Versailles court.

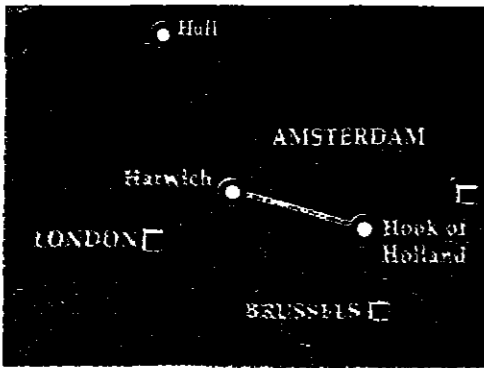
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GLEB GARMICH/REUTERS

# Grozny leader survives car bomb attack

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Maskhadov of Chechnya narrowly escaped assassination yesterday when a car bomb exploded as his motorcade passed, destroying his armoured Chevrolet, killing one of his bodyguards and seriously wounding three others.

The President threw himself out of the blazing car and survived with only scratches. He immediately appeared at a press conference in Grozny, the capital, where he blamed foreign intelligence services for the assassination attempt. In a later television address, he claimed that Russian agents and their local allies were responsible. But he also accused maverick Chechens of wanting to take over the presidential palace. He had earlier hinted that Islamic radicals were to blame.

Militant Wahhabi fundamentalists fought a pitched battle against Chechen government forces last week in an attempt to set up a strict Islamic state. Mr Maskhadov announced a crackdown on Muslim groups on Monday.

The army quickly rallied round the President after the bomb attack, which happened as he was driving from his official residence. President Yeltsin's representative in Chechnya visited him and Russian Alikhadzhiyev, chair-

### DIARY OF REVENGE

- Oct 1995: General Anatoli Romanov, Russia's military commander in Chechnya, seriously hurt by bomb
- April 1996: Dzhokhar Dudayev, Chechen President, killed by rocket
- April 1996: Badriddin Dzhamalkhanov, Chechen Deputy Prime Minister, wounded
- Dec 1996: Six Red Cross workers killed
- Oct 1997: Salman Raduyev, rebel commander, injured by car bomb

man of the Chechen parliament, promised to set aside petty differences and give President Maskhadov greater support. The attack has sent shudders through Moscow, which fears that Chechnya stands on the brink of civil war. President Maskhadov is seen as the only person with the authority and political experience to hold the warring factions together while pursuing a course of moderation towards Russia.

Mr Maskhadov did not say which countries he suspected of involvement, but most of his enemies are building up their

strength just across the Chechen border in Dagestan. Five thousand reservists were called up at the weekend to try to halt a wave of kidnapping and other crimes and they have been manning roadblocks in the search for Wahhabis. In addition, Mr Maskhadov has recalled Shamil Basayev, the hero of the guerrilla fight against Russia and a former Prime Minister, and given him control over the army.

Despite its bloody two-year attempt to crush the Chechen independence movement, Russia has a vital interest in a Maskhadov victory. The main oil pipeline from the Caspian Sea passes through Chechnya to link with the Russian network and Moscow is waging a desperate political and economic struggle to maintain some control over the future pipeline outlets from the rich Caspian basin.



Al Gore, the US Vice-President, flies over the steel and concrete "sarcophagus" shielding the still highly radioactive Chernobyl reactor that was the scene in 1986 of the worst civil nuclear accident. He toured the disused plant on foot to publicise the need to repair the decayed casing

# Washed-out Yeltsin under holiday cloud

BY MICHAEL BINYON

PRESIDENT YELTSIN is having a rotten holiday. Since he arrived in Karelia among the pine, birch and clear lakes of northern Russia, the rain has not stopped. For five days it has come down in sheets, and Mr Yeltsin's mood is as black as the skies.

He wanted to go fishing, a sport he has taken up with enthusiasm since being banned on medical grounds from hunting. Last year he had amazing luck, catching trout by the bucketful from a nearby lake — a feat secretly ensured by loyal underlings stocking the lake with enough fish to feed a biblical 5,000. But this year he has been out only once, in the pouring rain, and caught only tiddlers. "They

didn't bother stocking the lake: the weather's been too awful," said Sergei Kulikayev, editor of a local newspaper. "He's hardly left his dacha."

Mr Yeltsin had planned to attend a yachting regatta on Lake Onega and all those with an eye on attracting the smart boating set to the remote Russian heartland were counting on his presence. But the occasion will probably be cancelled.

Nor has he been seen walking, reputedly another favourite pastime. The weather has ensured a plentiful supply of mushrooms in the forests, and most Russians cannot resist the promise of 15 exhausting hours of mushrooming, from early dawn until vodka-cheered dusk. But the President has stayed indoors, his dejected posse

of guards, servants and drivers mooching about feeling unwanted.

Officially, he is said to be working on his documents. The phrase has rung alarm bells throughout the country. It was the favourite cover given by protective Kremlin minders to conceal past illnesses and heart problems. It sounds to Russians like the "heavy cold" that explained Yuri Andropov's lengthy absences and from which he eventually died. It has already set the rumour mills racing.

"I fear that he's not well," Mr Kulikayev said. The President certainly did not look too sprightly during the Tsar's funeral last week and had to sit down for much of the service. Omnibusly, his dutiful wife, Naina, has not left his side. She has little interest

in fishing but had planned to visit a summer camp for city children. She did not go. "It just confirms my suspicions," Mr Kulikayev said.

In previous years, the Kremlin would have battled with nature to ensure that "Tsar Boris" had a good time — seeding the clouds to keep away the rain, releasing flocks of ducks into the range of his eager gun, or clearing paths through the woods to provide a pleasing stroll.

None of that has been done this year. Sergei Kiriyenko, the Prime Minister, has promised to visit Mr Yeltsin on Saturday and there will be plenty to discuss. But probably they will sit around talking about the only thing on Mr Yeltsin's mind — the awful weather.



President Maskhadov, who survived with scratches, and his Chevrolet after the blast. He blamed Russian intelligence services for the assassination attempt

# White House press secretary resigns

Washington: Mike McCurry, President Clinton's press secretary, resigned yesterday in a move which had been long anticipated but still shocked Washington (Bronwen Maddox writes).

Mr McCurry, perhaps the best-known face in the White House after the Clintons, said he plans to step down before the November congressional elections because he wanted to spend more

time with his wife and children. He told a packed White House press room that he wanted a change of career and "might eventually like to teach a little bit".

While expected for months, the move is seen as something of a blow for Mr Clinton. Over the past 18 months of scandal, particularly the Monica Lewinsky saga this year, Mr McCurry has been credited with handling the

pressure with grace, wit and credibility. However, there were recent reports of tension between the President and Mr McCurry. In a rare lapse of discretion, he told a Chicago newspaper that there would probably not be a simple explanation of the President's relationship with Ms Lewinsky, the first apparent admission by a White House insider that a relationship existed.

# King family loses right to 'dream' speech

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

THE "I have a dream" speech of Martin Luther King belongs to the American public, not his family, a judge has ruled in a blow for the relatives of the assassinated civil rights leader.

The family, which claimed that it owned the copyright, argued that CBS television infringed the copyright when it reproduced the speech in a documentary series.

The speech, which Dr King wrote at night in a Washington hotel overlooking the Mall before delivering it on August 28, 1963, to 200,000 people in front of the Lincoln Memorial, ranks as one of the most powerful pieces of oratory in American history. He called on everyone to share his vision of a country where the colour of someone's skin did not determine his future.

The case comes after the recent tussle over the Zapruder family's ownership of the famous videotape of the Kennedy assassination. There is no dispute about the ownership, but the Zapruder family's demand for \$18 million (£11 million) to sell the rights to the Government has aroused public unease. The Justice Department has offered only \$3 million. Royalties from the digital version of the tape go to the family.

In the King case, Judge William O'Kelley in the Atlanta federal district court ruled that the speech was a gift to US history. The family argued that King had successfully applied for the copyright a month after the speech.

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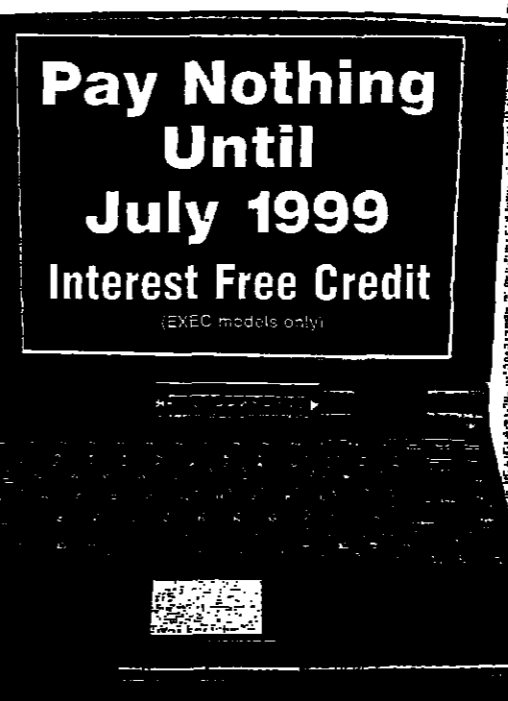
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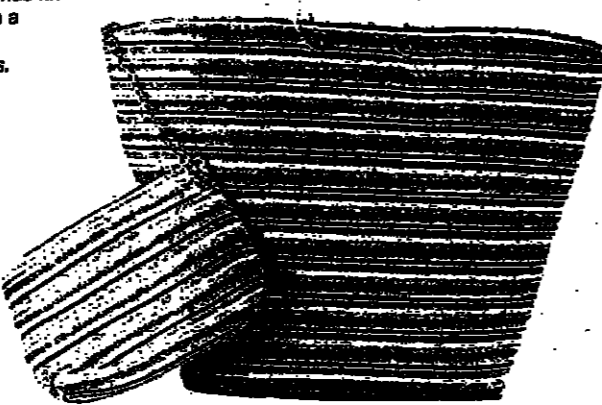
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# Bagging beach chic

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Big bags are a must for the beach

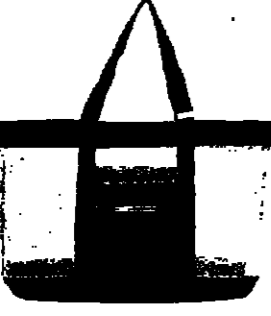
**MULTICOLOURED BAG, £80**  
Brightly coloured stripes are fun, and this bag can carry copious amounts, has firm Perspex handles and comes with a matching purse attached.  
Dollargrand, available at Harrods.  
(0171-730 1234)  
9/10



**CANVAS HOLDALL, £260**  
Extremely large bag, great for day trips. Very sturdy and functional, will last more than one season.  
Hermès, 179 Sloane Street SW1.  
(0171-823 1014)  
10/10



**STRAW BAG, £110**  
There is a desert island feel to this sturdy yet stylish bag. Thick leather plaited handles add an elegant touch.  
Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street W1.  
(0171-491 4967)  
9/10



**NET SPORTS BAG, £19.99**  
The orange see-through netting and Neoprene combination is very New York sports chic but it will let in the sand.  
HX Next (0116-284 9424)  
8/10

**CREAM RAFFIA, £18**  
Soft raffia woven bag with wooden beaded handles, chic and understated. Not too big and cumbersome, so practical for town.  
Ravel (0171-436 3126)  
8/10

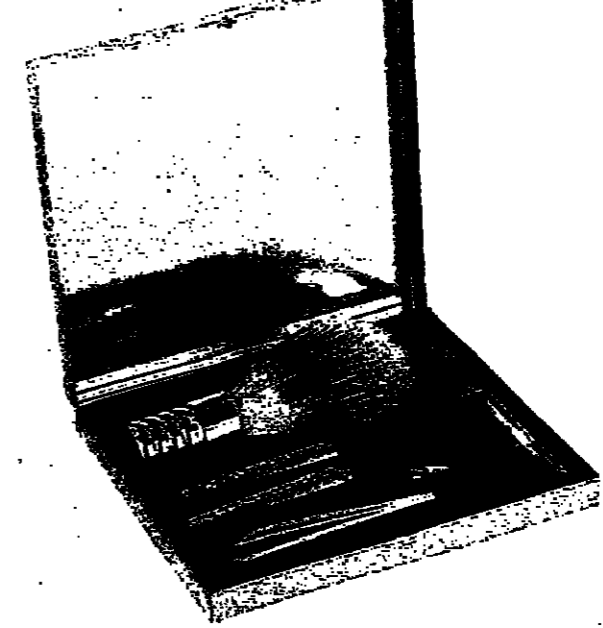
**DENIM HOLDALL, £175**  
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(0171-243 2089)  
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COMPILED BY DEBORAH BRETT

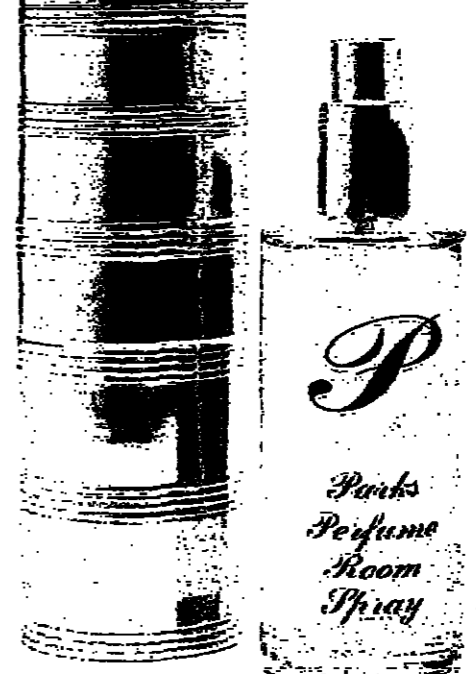


The summer can bring out an attack of the designer peasants in the most urban of girls

## Objects of desire



Tiny and compact, this silver-plated grooming case is the perfect travelling companion. A small badger-bristled shaving brush, razor with extra blade, nail clipper and nail file are all housed in a slim lightweight silver-plated mirrored case. £24.99 by Ernest Jones (0181-905 9000)



Known for their exquisite scented candles, which come in a huge range of silver, glass and wooden containers, Parks has developed a room spray. With a sweet floral fragrance, it is packaged in a stylish silver-plated cylinder. £39.95 at Harvey Nichols, Selfridges and John Lewis stores.

**HOT TIP**

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There is nothing like the start of the summer holidays for bringing on an attack of the designer peasants in the most urban of girls. Why should this be? Well, fashion is, after all, really only a means of enlivening the boring human need for warmth and decency with a little fantasy. Some of the satisfactions of the childhood dressing-up box resurface in a modern woman's ability to transform herself from Russian princess to urban guerrilla to milkmaid with a fur scarf, a pair of low-slung olive pants, or a straw hat and a wicker basket. Like children, adults love hearing the same stories over and over again. Which is why, each year at about this time, as the harvest gets under way and the beach gets fill with children clutching shrimping nets, the mothers of those children begin to feel a pressing need for gingham sundresses, espadrilles, and rustic straw baskets.

## CUTTING EDGE

JANE SHILLING

Englishwoman's heart for capacious baskets made of straw or rushes. In the summer months, in many a shiretown high street (to say nothing of Sloane Square), it is advisable to look sharp if you don't want

to be impaled on a pointed spike of willow protruding from some stoutly woven basket. (I've got one myself. It cost £17.99 at Peter Jones. It is almost as big as a baby's cradle, and it weighs about as much. It would be awfully useful, if only it didn't get stuck quite so often in the automatic barriers on the Underground.)

Probably my favourite picture of the Urban Peasant in action — the quintessential English beauty-about-town, with one toe still rooted in the

Land — is a photograph taken of Jane Birkin in a Paris nightclub, some time in the early Seventies. Her hair is long, shiny and tousled, her dress microscopic, her legs endless. On one arm hangs her husband, Serge Gainsbourg, all blue chin and louche Gallic leer, and on the other, an immense rush basket of the sort used by old French peasant ladies to carry home fodder for their rabbits. Heaven knows what she's got in there — nothing more than a lipstick and a cigarette lighter, probably. But that is not the point. The point is the Look — an inimitable combination of sexy and indomitable, halfway between Agatha Runcible and Lady Baden-Powell. A quarter of a century later, the same look is still going strong among such eccentrically fashionable beauties as Iris Palmer and Honor Fraser.

A particularly endearing aspect of this particular look is that it costs next to nothing to achieve. Of course, if you have set your heart on a rustic bag that costs a fortune, there are some exquisite examples about — some of them mentioned below. But an important part of the charm of a straw bag is that it is ephemeral — made to last for a single season. Having said that, I am hoping that my own thrilling new buy may survive a little longer. I got it, slightly to my surprise, at C&A. It is made of green-gold crocheted grass, lined in sage green cotton, and it smells divine — just like a haystack. It has a big, curved bamboo handle and is roomy enough to swallow a book, a bathing costume and a bottle of Evian — but still elegant enough to go to a restaurant. It cost £10.

C&A also has smaller, dyed straw bags in summery stripes of yellow, green and turquoise with bamboo handles for £5 (reduced from £10). At Next, a brilliant turquoise knozted straw shopping basket is £14.99. H&M has roomy crocheted raffia shoulder bags in natural, brown, green or purple for £7.99, and an outstandingly sophisticated black string bag knozted, fishnet-style, from silky black cord with a ridged base and circular handles — very Fifties starlet, for £8.99.

If sophistication is what you want, Russell & Bromley has a pretty little straw handbag with wooden handles, £89.50, while Bally has small striped straw bags with wooden handles in blue, green and yellow, or mauve, pink and yellow for £69 (£85). If you are not afraid of over-coordination there are matching wedge sandals for £29 (£69). At DKNY, handbag-sized rush mini-baskets are £25 (£50).

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Toby Graham was reunited with his real mother, Clare Short, who had given him up for adoption 31 years before. But how do adoptive mothers feel in these circumstances?

# The mother I never knew

**I**t sounds kitsch now, but at the time it meant the world to me. "You didn't grow under my heart," my mother would explain. "You grew in it."

Teaching an adopted child the facts of life is more than a matter of human biology. When a natural son or daughter asks "how did I get here?" the process of explanation, although not easy, is relatively straightforward. For those parents who have adopted a child, there is much more to say. And much more to fear.

No child can be expected to react well to the thought that they were given away. Rejection can be cruel as an adult. But how much more wounding is it to think that you were rejected by the first person you knew: the one whose love was supposed to be unconditional?

So when, and how, an adoptive mother chooses to tell their child about the past is one of the most delicate tasks she faces. My mother did so in such a way as to make me feel not rejected, but exceptional. I had been specially chosen by her and my father — a genuine



**Mothers may soon be able to trace children they have given away. Adopted son Michael Gove reflects**

fending the woman I have always called Mum, the woman in whose heart I grew. Although she has never given any indication that she would stand in my way I know, as only a son can, what might hurt her.

The very act of investigating would suggest that I felt there had been something missing, or incomplete, in my upbringing. By trying to identify the woman who had given birth to me, I would be implying that I needed to complement my Mum's love with that of another woman.

may be taken out of my hands. The Children's Society and other campaigning family charities issued a report yesterday calling for birth mothers to be allowed access to the children they have given up. Their appeal is powerfully affecting.

The law only allows children to trace their birth mothers at the moment. It has been thought that the sudden eruption into an individual's life of a parent they have never known could be disorientating and distressing.

with my progress through life. Some birth mothers might prefer the relative bliss of ignorance, the complete drawing of a line under the experience after giving their child up. But I firmly believe no mother can ever remain indifferent to the fate of her child, however hard she tries to master her feelings, and any information is better than none.

The challenge for me is responding to any future attempt by my birth mother to get to know me personally. How would I react to a letter, or call? Into the delicate balance between curiosity about my past and love for the woman I know as mother would come the claim of another woman. A woman who had suffered that I might be born, and kept silent, probably deeply grieving, for 30 years.

The sight, last year, of another pudgy thirtysomething embracing the mother he had never known gave me pause for deep thought. To see Toby Graham reunited with Clare Short 31 years after she had given him up for adoption was to witness the purest, unaffected, happiness. But I could not help thinking of the third person in the triangle, the one out of the picture. How did Toby's adoptive mother feel? I am sure she was delighted both for Clare and her son. But she would have to be close to a saint not to have felt that their joy pushed her, inevitably, to the side.

I would not want my mother to feel that another woman came between us, but I would feel powerless to resist any attempt by my birth mother to es-

ablish contact. Faced with this judgment of Solomon in reverse, I would only wish that I had not been thrust into this position.

Although that inclines me to oppose The Children's Society and argue that, in every sense, we should leave well alone, there is one powerful consideration which makes me hesitate. A change in the law might mean that more children who would not otherwise be born could come into the world. The knowledge that giving up a child for adoption was not the end of the relationship might lead more despairing young mothers to have their child adopted rather than aborted.

I was born a year before abortion was legalised and have no idea what my birth mother might have done in different circumstances. But other women might, just might, opt for adoption if they knew that was not the end of the matter. And if that meant other children might enjoy the opportunities I did, and other families might benefit as my parents did, then that has to weigh in anyone's heart.

## Ego-surfers and their underwear

Are you familiar with the latest lingo, asks Mark Mason

**H**ave you suffered an attack of beepslepsy recently? Or been installed from a G.O.O.D. job? Or found a new unfriend?

If these questions leave you mystified, the odds are that you're not a mouse potato. As computers and technology impinge more and more on our lives, and as employment patterns and sexual mores change, a new lexicon of slang is emerging. Beepslepsy is the spasm people go into when their paper or mobile phone goes off: uninstalled means sacked, while a G.O.O.D. job is a menial one taken purely to "get out of debt". And an unfriend is a sexual partner of dubious standing: "This is um Philip, my um friend."

Mouse potatoes are the Nineties equivalent of couch potatoes. These are the people who go ego-surfing (looking up references to their own name on the Internet), can often double geek (work on two computers at the same time), and have to contend with keyboard plaque (the dirt and fluff that accumulates between computer keys). They keep their underwear (personal files on an office network) hidden from the boss, while indulging in the occasional bout of percussive maintenance (hitting a computer to get it to work again). For those of us still in cavernan mode (unskilled at coping with the new technology), the ohmosecond is that minuscule fraction of time in which you realise you have just deleted the whole afternoon's work by mistake.

Perhaps those at the cutting edge of the computer revolution have coined these terms to preserve their sanity and sense of humour, a defence mechanism against the fear that computers could take over their lives. If so, slang is providing similarly needed humour in the cut-throat employment market of the Nineties. We now have chainsaw consultants (outside experts brought in to sack workers, leaving the real bosses with clean hands and consciences). There are blolocracies (time-serving middle managers who contribute little to a firm's output), who stand out by their nerd-packs (the rows of pens in their top pockets), and whose main hobby is blamestorming (discussing in groups why a mistake occurred and whose fault it was).

Freelancers who work part-time for several employers now indulge in daylighting



Traders brought slang to the City

on shooting rampages.

Among the most prolific inventors of new terms are financial dealers, many of whom are former barrowboys and market traders who have brought slang to the City. Most offices there are cube farms (huge floors divided up by screens), which have given rise to prairie dogging (everyone popping their heads up over the walls to discover the cause of a sudden noise). Unsolicited e-mails are known as spam, angry replies to them as flame-mails.

But even those of us at relatively low levels of technological activity now have slang terms we can employ. Got a satellite dish? Call it your chimney wok. Sick of all the virtually worthless petrol tokens you have collected? Then refer to them as fairy money. But don't bore people by using too many of these terms together. Their brain might switch off and you'll be treated to their screen-saver face.

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CHANGING TIMES

# Why did we hesitate to kill Hitler?

The best Führer would have been a dead one, says Daniel Johnson

The emergence from the archives of a plan by British special forces to assassinate Hitler in 1944 is undeniably the stuff of martial fantasy. But I find the revelation itself troubling, and even more so the reaction of Hitler's latest biographer, Ian Kershaw, in *The Times*. He thinks that an assassination would have created a new "stab in the back" legend and probably wouldn't have ended the war anyway. "It was best that the [SOE] schemes stayed on the back burner," he concludes.

Other experts, such as D.C. Watt and Andrew Roberts, made much the same case. I think the experts are wrong. By the time SOE met in June 1944 to discuss killing Hitler, it was desperately late in the day. Not only had the Continent suffered Nazi occupation for four years, but — as the Allies well knew — the Final Solution had largely run its course. Why was the elimination of the architect of genocide left so late?

There was a perverse aversion among the British political elite to the idea of a political overthrow, as opposed to a military defeat, of the Nazi regime. Starting in the late 1930s, countless appeals for help from the German resistance were ignored, ridiculed, even publicly disavowed by British governments. After the abortive Stauffenberg bomb plot of July 20, 1944, the BBC broadcast the names of suspected conspirators. The Nazi propaganda version of the coup was accepted by the British. It has taken two generations for the "traitors" to be rehabilitated. Only this year did Balliol College, Oxford, name a seminar room after one of them: its former Rhodes Scholar, Adam von Trott.

Why didn't the British want to kill Hitler? Was there a grudging respect for the man who had outwitted British diplomacy before the war? There were those who would have made peace with Hitler in 1940-41: after so many defeats, many were as much under the Führer's spell as the Germans themselves. Some had moral scruples about assassination: they had not hanged the Kaiser, either. Churchill was not among these fainthearts. He approved Operation Foxley to kill Hitler, and wanted all Nazi war criminals summarily shot; Stalin (!) had to persuade him to put them on trial.

But the British took a terrible risk by letting Hitler live so long. Had Hitler not committed a series of colossal strategic errors, he might well have won the war. He saw himself as the only man who could unify the Continent against the nascent American and Soviet superpowers. "It was Europe's last chance," he told Bormann in February 1940. Both men made military blunders, but both were symbols of resistance. "Without Churchill the British would have lost the war long ago," Goebbels admitted in 1941. The same was true of Hitler and the Germans — only more so. Why did Churchill spare the life of Hitler? It is, to coin a phrase, a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.

Special forces did very little to change the course of the Second World War, with the exception of Otto Skorzeny's rescue of Mussolini, which may have prolonged the war in Italy. German counter-intelligence, the Abwehr, had penetrated the SOE, though its head, Canaris, was plotting against Hitler. But even if Operation Foxley was impractical, it was within Churchill's power to support any of the 15 German attempts on Hitler's life, at no risk to the Allies. Churchill understood the importance of Hitler to the German war effort, just as the Germans understood Churchill's importance to Britain's survival in 1940. Both men made military blunders, but both were symbols of resistance.



# Lords of consent

I disagree with peers about gay sex but I respect their independent spirit

Listening to the result after the Lords vote on homosexual law reform on Wednesday night, I felt the weirdest sensation. My side had lost, the wrong argument had won — and yet something about that result was heartening. A group of men and women selected according to principles that no rational person could defend and I do not defend — but to whom our constitution still offers a voice — had stood up to a shallow-rooted consensus, defied the fashionable opinion of the hour and forced its apologists to make out their case a second time.

I vehemently reject what their lordships have done to the Crime and Disorder Bill — and equally vehemently uphold their right to do it. There is absolutely nothing to stop MPs insisting on their original decision to equalise the age of sexual consent. The Commons should and (I believe) will equalise it. They will return to the issue and this time, perhaps, think about it a little harder.

A second chamber has every right to put a first chamber to this trouble. The Commons never got to grips with the huge reform they waved through, and it is time they did. It ought to be their job. The Lords are doing their job. They offered honest opinions. They squared up to difficult questions. I disagree with their answer, but the questions mattered — yet in the Commons debate they were hardly heard. We can answer them, every one. It cannot be bad for democracy that we have been asked to do so — and asked by an assembly whose members are not forever looking over their shoulders to find out what the next man is doing, a moistened finger forever raised to what they take to be the wind.

As Baroness Young pointed out in her speech during the Lords debate, it was never adequate that the Commons should make this huge leap after a three-hour debate held on the evening of the England-Argentina football match on June 22, on an amendment tacked on to a larger Bill with wholly different purposes. The amendment was added so late that it was never considered in committee in either House. A change like this ought to be enacted in a separate Sexual Offences Bill.

And the change will be made: but this time, I hope, after more thoughtful debate. Something about the bandwagon for homosexual law reform over the past two years had been unsettling me, and I think I can now identify it. It had begun to remind me horribly of the mindless engine against reform in whose path I tried hesitantly to stand when I was a government MP. In the early 1980s I was putting the case for reducing the age of homosexual consent from 21 to 18. It was the most (then) that seemed to me achievable. A Home Office committee of a non-political sort had recommended as much.

Michael Jopling, the Chief Whip, told me — courteously and kindly — to leave the subject alone. He and his colleagues advised me that there was "no political will" in either party to open up this debate. My own whip, the late Sir Spencer Le Marchant, told me over a tankard of champagne that he agreed with me personally — and also that I was a fool for wasting my time in a lost and dodgy cause. A number of other political friends said the same. The times were against it, they chorused. My constituents did not want to hear about it.

When I tried patiently to make the argument to fellow MPs, they would interrupt, not with any answers to my argument but with metaphors involving heads and brick walls, Quixotes and windmills. I was spitting into the wind. How I learnt to hate "the wind". Were we windsocks?

Walter Harrison, Labour's deputy chief whip, took me aside in a friendly spirit and warned me that if I hoped for much support from his side of the House, I was living in a fool's paradise. The Labour Party was not interested in this issue, he said, and if I acquired a reputation for banging on about it, I would damage my credit-

of consent provided so painstakingly by the Stonewall lobbying group, and the calm arguments and steady judgment of its director, Angela Mason, were what won that debate. But the truth is that the debate was not won by an argument. It was won by the wind. Free votes in our House of Commons are not free because, even told to be free, MPs are captive spirits: slaves to the wind.

This is why the subject of soft drugs may not for decades yet receive the independent-minded thought that it deserves from our House of Commons. On drugs, public opinion is way ahead of MPs: on homosexuality, public opinion is still catching up with their strange, collective mood swings. That on both subjects the unelected Lords are closer to public opinion than the elected Commons is a reproach to the gang mentality of MPs. A reproach to the political wind.

The windsock tendency at Westminster is strong and getting stronger. A second chamber can stand against this wind. It is so much more important that the independence of our Upper House be respected and guarded than that my own argument on this single issue of homosexuality should win the day now rather than a few months later. In Robert Bolt's *A Man For All Seasons*, Thomas More's son-in-law, William Roper, tells More that he would "cut a great road through the law to get after the Devil". "Oh?" replies More. "And when the last law was down, and the Devil turned round on you — where would you hide, Roper, the laws all being flat?"

Matthew Parris

## Philip Howard



### Things that go bump in the unconscious

I have managed to avoid *Godzilla* so far, even though it is on the local. I was amused (but put off) by the review describing the film as a 400ft turkey or flopper. But small peer pressure suggests that I shall have to chaperone a troop of little boys to the cinema for them to watch popcorn, scream and giggle, and come out with something to boast about. So here are eight Jungian archetypes for the ancient genre of horror story. I hope that Hollywood has adhered to some of them.

1 Less means more in the horror story. Indirections and suggestions are more frightening than direct statements. Henry James, who created some of the best ghost stories, achieved his most powerful effects by stealth, hint and understatement. He described his modus operandi, characteristically, as "the process of adumbration". Dylan Thomas wrote: "The horror should rise up like a clot of blood in the throat."

2 One guide to Hell describes it as perpetual noise that is deafeningly deaf. That is also a fair description of the most cinematic. But silence and footfalls in the imagination are more effective at making my two eyes, like stars, start from their spheres. (Note how Hamlet's Dad terrifies us much more by his refusal to go into details about Elizabethan devils with roasting forks.) So the leitmotif in *Jaws* is a background murmur. You can turn up the volume when Anthony Perkins in drag comes shrieking with a knife.

3 Themes for horror run in fashions. I liked the school inspired by the discovery of Tutankhamun, with someone bursting out of 5,000-year-old mummy-cloths and grunting incoherent groans as he stomps down the passage towards the audience. Computers and virtual prehistory have made Jurassic monsters more fashionable than they have been since cave paintings of the Stone Age. But horror comes starkest from domestic objects and situations that could happen to any of us. A cat, a canary, or (pushing domesticity a bit) a severed hand, not an overgrown lizard.

4 We should be able to identify with the evil. So we sympathise with Frankenstein's monster even as we shudder at the savage killer who the world has made him. We pity what Dracula has become as the moonlight glints on his prominent molars. Even Polyphebus, the savage cannibal Cyclops, loves his dear old ram, who is smuggling Odysseus out of the bloody cave. And birds behaving in an aberrant way are more frightening than mythical monsters. We meet birds every day in the park, but never lizards a thousand high. The lizards we meet in everyday life are small, timidous, darting things. I cannot take them seriously as evil. Their tails fall off.

5 The exception to this last rule, that familiarity breeds horror, is the werewolf. There are no verifiable records of a human being turning into a wolf when the Moon comes more near the Earth than is her wont. There are few instances of wolves killing humans. On the contrary, humans have almost wiped out wolves. But lycanthropy, that old werewolf, is a horror that has roots in the first novels in the ancient world. Yet Hollywood still churns out films such as *I Was a Teenage Werewolf*.

6 From his reptilian reports, *Godzilla* does not seem nasty enough to be a first-division horror. He is not mean, just clumsy, and a walking advertisement of the danger of keeping a large pet in a district as congested as Manhattan. Nothing but trouble comes of it. But is it horror?

7 True horror should stir ancient human fears, such as the swimmer's fear of being bitten by a giant fish finger or dragged under by a giant kraken or slimy seaweed; verigoo; ophiophobia; the smiler with the knife; and darkness, decay and the Red death held illimitable dominion over all. I never twiggid the Freudian subtext of *The Birds*, but I found that thriller twice rather than frightening. Perhaps because I live with a budget, a canary and woodpeckers at the Nozing Hill bird table.

8 The very old human delight in being scared witless out of our socks is very odd. The first entrance of the Furies on the tragic stage was so terrifying that women in the audience miscarried. Literature from the Old Testament onwards features horror stories. Perhaps, like hitting our heads with a stone, it gives us relief when the fear and apprehension stop. And we emerge blinking and shell-shocked out of *Godzilla* into Nothing Hill state and find no big lizard, but just the usual roar of the traffic.

JASPER GERARD

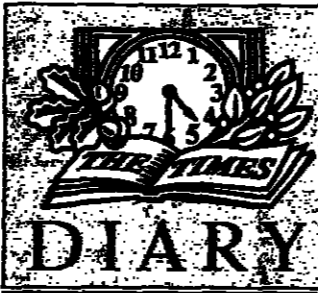
# Labours lost

TO STRIKE or not to strike: that is the question facing the cast of the Royal Shakespeare Company as they vote next week on whether to walk out for the first time in the history of David Calder, Clare Holman, Kelly Hunter and 85 other actors and stage managers has been over the management's refusal to agree to a minimum wage of £250 a week. Almost all other theatres in the country pay their actors at least that much, but the RSC pleads pence, citing the usual thespian gripe of shrinking Arts Council handouts. Intriguingly, the RSC also admits that there has been a big drop in Japanese and American swinging past Stratford-upon-Avon to catch a spot of Shakespeare.

Whatever the merits of the players' case, should they turn bolshie, much good theatre will be cancelled. During the summer, Calder (pictured), whose most recent highlight television role has been in *Bramwell*, is due to play Prospero in *The Tempest* and Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* and Isabella in *Measure for Measure*. "We are hopeful that action will not be taken and our negotiations will be resolved amicably," says the RSC. I hope the dispute is much ado about nothing.

## Animal magic

THE new aide to the Prince of Wales has already honed a special technique to keep journalistic reptiles at bay. She instructs her father



to say she is unavailable as she is delivering a calf. Elizabeth Buchanan, who is to become an assistant private secretary to the Prince, spends weekends at the family farm near Nutley, East Sussex. She readily helps out with the beef cattle and sheep, but spends most time riding her 10-year old Dutch horse, Guido. The duo enjoy regular success at dressage competitions. A charming and vivacious PR consultant for Bell Pottinger, she will need all her sharpness to fend off the reptiles.

● JUST who was behind those voter-friendly snaps of Gordon Brown playing table tennis with his friend Sarah Macaulay? For once, not his mischievous press attaché, Charlie Whelan. Instead it was Jon Snow, the Channel 4 newscaster, who is chairman of the New Horizon Homeless Centre where the photo was posed. The two met last summer at Cape Cod, the rather suburban holiday resort near Boston, and sealed the deal over a dou-

bles tennis match. Who won? Why, the Chancellor and his youthful nephew by two sets to one. Brown's nephew is a "dynamite player", reports Snow ruefully.

## Memory men

MORE paper darts from the study where John Major is writing his memoirs. Early drafts suggest that the former PM is writing in a much more personal style than his predecessors, giving a flavour of life at No 10 far more revealing than previous prime ministerial apologies, and is heeding advice not to look back in anger. It also appears that the former PM is developing a passion for the pen, with an impressive prose style. His publisher believes his hefty advance to be a good investment. An intriguing footnote that gives an indication of the grandeur of TV types concerns Michael Brunson, the political editor of ITN, who is taking a three-month sabbatical to write his memoirs. Major will loom large in the book, as it was to Brunson that the then PM let slip his "bastards" remark. Brunson has apparently vowed not to publish his book at the same time as Major's in case they clash. Back in your box, Brunson, I suspect Major's book will do rather better.

● THE venerable Michael Foot evaded well-wishers on his 85th birthday yesterday. The spritzly



ghost of Labour past skipped the Channel for a romantic whirl around Paris with Jill Craigie, his engaging wife. Friends say Foot has a soft spot for France: "They have a Socialist Government."

## Caine able

MICHAEL CAINE is to revive his Harry Palmer persona to help a defeated Tory MP to achieve his dream of conquering Hollywood. The actor has answered the call from David Porter, who is producing a low-budget Tarantino-esque gangster movie set in his old East Anglian constituency. Porter, who never troubled the front benches, has surprised his erstwhile voters.



"The film is called *Salvation's Door* and it's about a group of criminals who are forced out of London and have to hole up here. It has lots of action and black humour." Caine has sentimental reasons for accepting a role in this "East Anglian Job". "Michael began his career in Lowestoft, where we are filming," says Porter. Stephen Fry (pictured with Caine) and Mike Reid from *EastEnders* have also signed up. Porter has rewarded locals who sacked him and is offering them shares in the film, in return for being extras. Has Porter written his Oscar victory speech? "I might not be able to get to LA. I'm teaching part-time in a school and I'm not sure I can get time off."

50 من الأصل





OBITUARIES

HERMANN PREY

GAY CLIFFORD

Hermann Prey, German baritone, died of a heart attack at his home near Munich yesterday, aged 69. He was born in Berlin on July 11, 1929.



Hermann Prey in the title role in a staging of Die Meistersinger by John Cox at Covent Garden in 1990

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau remains the most revered German baritone of his generation. But Hermann Prey, his junior by four years, was the most popular one, especially in his native country.

Prey was, like Fischer-Dieskau, a scholar and a consummate singer of Lieder, but he also delighted in being an entertainer. In public he was a naturally extrovert figure, immediately appealing with his mane of wavy chestnut hair, broad smile and enthusiasm for whatever he took on.

He was a natural on television, both as performer and master of ceremonies, reaching out to an audience which had probably never heard of Hohenems where he founded the Schubertade in 1976. He never lost the popular touch, which was in part a reflection of his upbringing. His father was a butcher and most of the musical encouragement came from his mother, a talented amateur singer.

more partial to an evening at the opera than to a Liederabend. So Hermann Prey went directly to Wiesbaden and made his stage debut in 1952 as the Second Prisoner in Fidelio. But within a year Gunther Rennert, who was to be a major influence on his career, whisked him off to the Hamburg State Opera, where he stayed until 1960.

At Hamburg Rennert insisted that Prey learn his trade by playing any number of supporting roles, appearing in a huge range of operas from the popular classics through to contemporary works. It was Rennert who recommended him to Walter Legge of EMI who, in 1958, was putting together a starry cast recording

of Johann Strauss's Der Zigeunerbaron. Prey duly appeared as the recruiting officer, Graf Homony, alongside Elisabeth Schwarzkopf and Nicolai Gedda. Legge recognised Prey's extrovert good humour coupled with a warm baritone and forecast that he would be the world's leading Figaro in Rossini's Il barbiere in a few years' time if he worked at the role.

The prediction, like many of Legge's, came true. Prey's first success at the Salzburg Festival, in 1969, came in this part in a memorable production by Jean-Pierre Ponnelle, which had Figaro rolling out of his hammock amid the rooftops of Seville and stretching his limbs to greet the dawn. Claudio Abbado conducted that performance, but thereafter Prey was more often to be heard in Salzburg and Vienna with Karl Böhm in the pit. Prey became above all a Mozart singer: Guglielmo, Almaviva and, above all, Papageno. He kept that last role in his repertoire for a long, long time. Even at the age of 60 when La Scala found itself minus a baritone for Mozart's bird-catcher Prey was prepared to step in at short notice, and did so to acclaim.

His other speciality was German song and 19th-century German opera. The Lead Edition Prey ran to 27 records covering every facet of German song from the medieval Minnesang up to the present day.

At Hohenems in the Voraarlberg it was Schubert in a festival which attracted leading artists and an audience of connoisseurs until it lost its shape and became too commercial.

On stage Hermann Prey championed German Romantic opera. He had long been an outstanding Wolfram (Tannhäuser), the role he chose for his Met debut, but he did not despise Lortzing and spotted the strengths of Marschner long before that composer began to be re-established. It was a way of being proud of Germany's musical heritage and gave Prey himself a chance to sing the melodies which delighted our grandfathers.

Prey the actor grew in stature and one of his most memorable creations was of the town-clerk Beckmesser in Die Meistersinger, which he sang at Bayreuth in 1982. With the connivance of the director Wolfgang Wagner he turned Beckmesser from the familiar toad-like figure into a credible suitor for the hand of Eva. There were complaints that Prey made Beckmesser sound too beautiful, and there were even more objections to his reconciliation in this production with Sachs at the end of the opera. But Prey stuck to his interpretation and won international acclaim for it. Covent Garden was lucky enough to hear and see his Beckmesser in March 1990.

Britain first heard him in 1965 when he came to the Edinburgh Festival with the Bavarian State Opera. There he played the composer Storch in the famous Munich production of Intermesse, Richard Strauss's domestic comedy which is generally reckoned to be a self-portrait.

Prey was a regular at Munich's Summer Festival, with its emphasis on Strauss, and he appeared often in Ariadne auf Naxos and Capriccio. Despite much persuasion, however, he declined to take on the heavier Strauss such as Jokanaan in Salome and Mandryka in Arabella.

His Covent Garden debut came in 1973 with Figaro in Il barbiere, the one Italian opera role he kept long in his repertoire. Thereafter his appearances with the Royal Opera were few. London will remember apart from Beckmesser an entertaining and highly idiomatic Papageno in The Magic Flute and a dashing Eisenstein, one of his best opera roles, in a Fledermaus which opened at Covent Garden on New Year's Eve, 1977, conducted by Zubin Mehta. But more often he was to be heard here singing Lieder in the recital hall.

As he entered his sixties Hermann Prey chose his stage appearances with great care, undertaking only those roles which did not tax the voice more than it could bear. He turned more to Lieder and back to some of those songs of his youth. He relished being a Berliner and did in part for that city what one of his great mentors, Erich Kunz, had done for Vienna.

Hermann Prey is survived by his wife and by a son and two daughters.

Gay Allis Rose Clifford, academic and poet, died of cancer on July 22 aged 55. She was born on June 27, 1943.

GAY CLIFFORD was 35 when she wrote her first poem; and only 41 when, on Christmas Eve, 1984, she suffered a devastating cerebral haemorrhage that stripped out her short-term memory and deprived her for many months of speech and movement, and for the rest of her life of her late-flowering and considerable poetic gift.

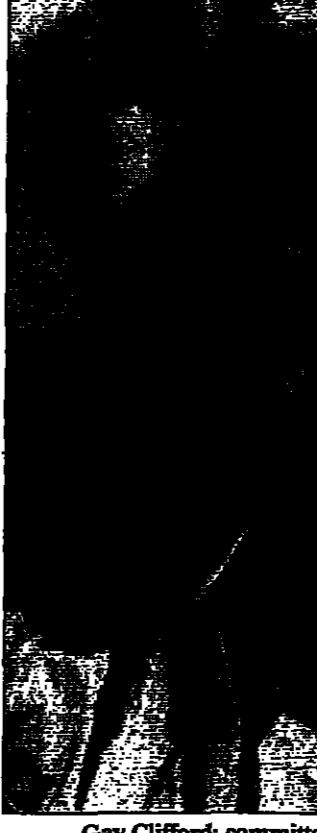
In the preface she wrote to The Poems of Gay Clifford, a collection of 89 of them selected by a band of her friends and published in 1990, Germaine Greer wrote that "her monument was less than half-bewn when she was forced to abandon it, but it is more picturesque, more moving, grander, more sublime perhaps for that". It is human for the brief blaze of the comet to catch the imagination. But Clifford's ambition, for all its self-destructive streak, would not have had it so.

After Somerville College, Oxford, where she took a first in English in 1964 followed by a BPhil, Clifford went to the then new University of Warwick as a lecturer in medieval literature. She was to remain an academic, and one passionately committed to teaching, for the rest of her professionally active life.

Her perceptive essay Transformations of Allegory was published in 1974; and an affinity with allegory, a love of language games, and a vocabulary imbued with allusions to literary and poetic tradition from Euripides to Gawain and on to Yeats and Empson, were to inform the poetry to which she later turned with an energy bordering on wilfulness. She was always racing against the inner clock that, she seemed to sense and at times almost to want, would chime her hour prematurely. "Artemis demanded the sacrifice", her first poem began, and it continued: "To state some kinds of knowledge invokes penality."

At Warwick, and later at University College London, she cut an unforgettable figure. A raven-haired beauty with enormous eyes, she was a mass of contradictions. The most feminine of feminists, she adored brilliant colours, jewellery, "Delightful cleaned and shimmering silver / The sharp edge of well ironed linen", social elegance and flirting with the male admirers of the early years, E. P. Thompson. Intensely valuing the courtesies of friendship, she could yet kill for a bon mot.

That she did so was in great measure due to the heroic refusal of her parents, Pam and Freddie, who took her to live with them in Mönchshampton, to accept the finality of what they had been told was irreparable mental damage. Her long last battle with leukaemia was borne both by her and her mother, Pam, who survives her, with the grace that Clifford always brought to the pressure which she had courted and had ultimately transformed, through poetry, into her personal medium.



Gay Clifford: committed academic and poet of powerful and personal expression

ROBERT YOUNG

Robert Young, actor, died in California on July 21 aged 91. He was born in Chicago on February 22, 1907.

AFTER signing Robert Young to a Hollywood contract, the MGM studio chief Louis B. Mayer promptly declared that his latest hiring would forever be limited to playing serious, upright characters. "He has no sex appeal," the mogul bluntly announced. But for Young, who made more than a hundred films and created two of television's most popular characters — the archetypal all-American patriarchs Jim Anderson (in Father Knows Best) and the good doctor Marcus Welby MD (in the series of the same name) — that apparent lack of magnet-

ism proved to be no obstacle to a 50-year career in film, television and radio. The fact that he never became a sex symbol like his contemporaries Clark Gable and Tyrone Power may have deprived him of glamorous starring roles, but it never dampened his enthusiasm for his craft. If anything, he regarded his asexual image as an asset, remarking that it ensured he was offered all the parts deemed unsuitable for leading men. He came to specialise in devoted husbands, salt-of-the-earth working men, all-round regular guys.

Robert Young was born in Chicago, the fourth of five children of an Irish immigrant building contractor. The family moved first to Seattle and then, when Young was ten, to

Los Angeles. By the time the boy went to high school he had found his calling on the stage.

Despite his love of theatre, Young went to work in a loan office on graduation, unsure how to break into Hollywood. It was his high school drama teacher, surprised that Young had not become an actor, who encouraged him to enrol in the Pasadena Community Players and further his career.

After appearing in some forty plays, Young was finally signed by MGM in 1931. He made 50 films with the studio, playing roles which included parts as a smooth talking playboy in New Morals for Old (1932) and a Nazi in The Mortal Storm (1940). His film Journey for Margaret (1942), in which he played a war correspondent who befriends a British orphan, made a star of Margaret O'Brien.

Of the hundred movies that spanned his career, Young said that his favourite role was in The Enchanted Cottage (1945), in which he played a war veteran with a useless arm who returns home and falls in love with an unattractive woman. Though never quite a movie star in his own right, Young worked alongside many of the cinema greats, including Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, Myrna Loy, Katharine Hepburn, Greer Garson, Norma Shearer and Jean Harlow.

In the 1950s his film career began to falter. By then, how-

ever, he was already well established on radio, having made his broadcast debut as master of ceremonies on a programme called Good News for 1938. Real success came in 1949, when Young created the role of the devoted father and insurance salesman Jim Anderson, in the hit radio drama Father Knows Best. When the series transferred to the new medium of television in 1954, Young went with it and at last became a star.

When the series ended in 1960, Young continued to work in television, first with the disappointing series Window on Main Street (1961-62) and then as the compassionate doctor who made house calls in Marcus Welby MD (1969-76). He won two Emmys for Father Knows Best and a third for Marcus Welby MD.

The great irony of Young playing a healer was not lost on his family, who watched him fight depression and alcoholism for most of his career. In 1991 Young attempted suicide and entered a psychiatric facility for treatment. Nevertheless, he worked consistently in television movies until his retirement in 1988. NBC reunited him with his 1950s TV family in a Father Knows Best special show in 1977, and for his final film he reprised the role of the good doctor in Marcus Welby MD: A Holiday Affair. Young's wife of 61 years, Betty Lou, died in 1994. He is survived by four daughters.

Gay Clifford: committed academic and poet of powerful and personal expression

PERSONAL COLUMN

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

Delta Worldwings flights directory listing routes to Sydney, Cairns, Perth, Auckland, Bangkok, Bali, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Seoul, Singapore, and New York.

LEGAL NOTICES

Jetworld travel agency advertisement listing various international flight routes and contact information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lightseekers and Faresavers travel services advertisement.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal notices regarding company matters and shareholder information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children on Dialysis charity advertisement.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal notices regarding company matters and shareholder information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children on Dialysis charity advertisement.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal notices regarding company matters and shareholder information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children on Dialysis charity advertisement.

DILLINGER KILLED

POLICE AMBUSH IN CHICAGO
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT NEW YORK, JULY 23
The desperado John Dillinger was shot and killed by Federal detectives as he came out of a cinema theatre in Chicago. They took no chance of his punting up a fight but shot him from behind point-blank, hitting him once in the head and twice in the body. He died in an ambulance without uttering a word.

ON THIS DAY

July 24, 1934
The law finally caught up in Chicago with the ruthless gangster John Dillinger after a woman tipped off the police about his movements. Dillinger's robberies and the pursuits that followed led to the deaths of at least 14 men.

DILLINGER KILLED

ON THIS DAY
July 24, 1934
that, and his hair which had been a tell-tale red, dark brown. As he stroled past Mr. Purvis he looked suspiciously at him, but apparently failed to recognize him. He walked a few steps further towards the alley where his car was, then wheeled sharply. But he was too late. Mr. Purvis had already signalled to his men that this was their quarry. A soft-shod detective stole up behind Dillinger from a doorway, set a pistol against his back, and fired. Three other shots were fired by detectives in rapid succession.

NEWS

Cook rapped over telephone tap

Robin Cook was strongly criticised by the Intelligence Services Commissioner in an unprecedented attack on a Foreign Secretary for failing to read a warrant properly, which led to an unlawful surveillance operation by GCHQ, the Government's eavesdropping centre.

The warrant had been incorrectly drawn up and he should have checked its wording before signing, the report on the operation of the Intelligence Services Act 1994 said. Page 1

Burns treatment 'killed thousands'

Thousands of patients critically ill with burns or shock have been killed by the use of human albumin solution, a treatment common for more than 50 years, according to research. The findings are so alarming that a meeting of safety committees was called to consider banning the treatment. Page 1

Gay sex revolt

Tony Blair and Jack Straw were struggling to prevent a backbench revolt as Labour MPs attacked their apparent readiness to cave in over the age of consent for gay sex. Pages 1, 12

Secular 'baptism'

Alternative "baptisms" for married or unmarried parents could be held in register offices under government plans aimed at strengthening families' commitment to children. Pages 1, 2

Millionaire 'broke'

Wensley Haydon-Baillie, 54 - 428th equal in this year's Sunday Times "rich list" with an estimated £50 million - has applied for a voluntary insolvency arrangement to pay debts said to be almost £16 million. Page 3

Sellafield cutback

Sellafield must cut drastically its radioactive discharges into the sea under measures agreed by European environment ministers. Page 6

Mourning Princess

The Queen has ordered that flags fly at half mast to mark the anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales - as her two young sons wished. Page 7

Football killing

A man whose single punch killed a rival Fulham fan outside Gillingham Football Club admitted manslaughter. Page 8

Double trouble as SAS get wrong men

An SAS operation to snatch twin Serb war-crime suspects in Bosnia was hailed a success by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence - until it was discovered that the wrong brothers had been seized and taken to The Hague. The two Serbs were quickly returned to their homes in Prijedor. Page 1

'Net piracy' ruling

Two men banned by a High Court judge from trying to make money by registering famous names as Internet websites failed to lift the legal block on "net piracy". Page 9

Doctors' pay demand

Doctors leaders said a 50 per cent pay rise and better working conditions were essential if the Government's promised extra 7,000 NHS doctors were to be recruited. Page 10

Israeli missile fear

The White House voiced strong concern about Iran's successful testing of a medium-range missile capable of reaching Saudi Arabia and Israel, which has a record of pre-emptive action. Page 14

Cambodian polls

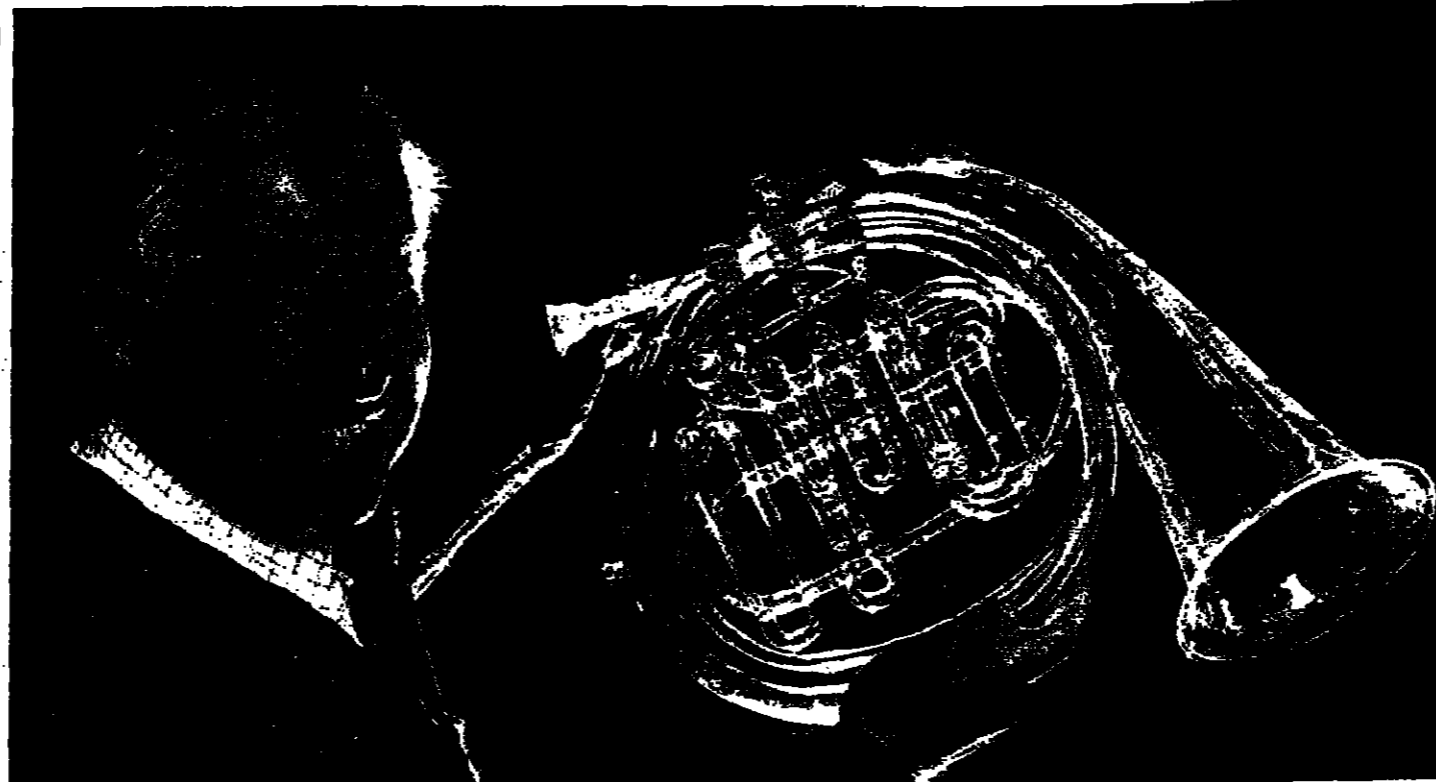
If it were not for the undertones of violence that have left a stain on Cambodia, the campaign for Sunday's general elections would be entertaining. Page 15

Minister jailed

José Barriobueno, a former Spanish Interior Minister, has been jailed for 13 years over a dirty war against Eta, the Basque separatist group, according to a leaked judgment. Page 16

Assassination fails

President Maskhadov of Chechnya escaped with scratches when a car bomb exploded as his motorcade passed. Page 17



Stan Marshall, 70, a master glassblower from Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, with a playable French horn valued at £2,000. It is the second he has made for a Midlands firm, which wanted the gift for a client; the first smashed when dropped by someone

Nationwide poll: Members of the building society voted by the narrowest of margins against conversion to bank status and were deprived of windfalls worth up to £1,000. Page 25

Rover gloom: Up to 20,000 British engineering jobs could be lost as Rover switches £1 billion of orders for components to foreign suppliers. Page 25

ICI setback: A stock market gripped by fear of recession wiped £1 billion off the value of ICI after the chemical group gave a warning of lower profits in the second half of the year. Page 25

Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 13.4 to 5976.2. The pound rose to \$1.6428 and to DM2.9449. The pound index rose to 105.1. Page 28

Cricket: South Africa reached a solid 302-7 in the fourth Test at Trent Bridge, with Alec Stewart wondering if he should have put them in to bat. Page 48

Golf: Justin Rose disappointed his new army of fans by scoring a six over par 77 at the Dutch Open at Hilversum. Lee Westwood stormed into the lead with a record-equalling 63. Page 48

Cycling: The Tour de France rest day was dominated by arrests for alleged drug-taking. Nine Festina team members and three from TVM were detained. Page 48

Swimming: Evidence is mounting against Michelle Smith who attends a hearing in Lausanne today over alleged tampering with a urine sample. Page 46

So bold: "The ebullience of the resulting comedy - not to mention the film of the Innuenduos - swept away decades of insipid and paternalistic inhibition at the BBC." - Richard Morrison on Round the Horne. Page 33

On stage: Rain failed to dampen enthusiasm at Galway's annual festival; plus an original angry young man revisited. Page 33

Pop 1: David Sinclair on the latest pop album releases; plus reviews of live gigs in a week dominated by no fewer than four grand old men of rock'n'roll. Page 34

Pop 2: The South African a cappella choir LadySmith Black Mambazo get set for Reading's WOMAD Festival; plus Caitlin Moran on the tracks of her tears. Page 35

Jane Shilling: "There is nothing like the start of the summer holidays for bringing on an attack of the designer peasant in the most urban of girls." Page 18

Lost children: Mothers may soon be able to trace children they gave away. Michael Gove, who was adopted, reflects. Page 19

Talking heads: Have you been uninstalled, or found a new unfriend? If you don't even understand, you are not a computer head. Page 19

Retiring: Brian MacArthur hails Peter Preston, who edited The Guardian for 20 years and is to retire. Page 37

Blackout: Why did a fly-on-the-wall BBC TV series about a Cumbrian village end suddenly? Were dark deeds afoot? Page 39

Setback: Researchers say long holidays can set children's learning progress back months. Page 41

The religious right wants to usurp the word tolerance the way it usurped "family" and "life". So we are now instructed to be open-minded to the close-minded, tolerant of antigay intolerance. Sometimes in this climate it's OK to be just a touch intolerant of the real intolerance. - The Boston Globe

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

MARK LAMARR Metro, the essential guide to what's on, talks to the former agitprop poet turned Radio 2 presenter

PLUS Vision, the 7-day TV and radio listings



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,852

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-28 indicating starting positions for clues.

- ACROSS
1 This goes in the drink - or vice versa (8).
5 Gold on state carriage (6).
10 Soldier missing a drug after freezing run (10,5).
11 Someone from an American state court, perhaps (7).
12 Vessel rather similar to tramp? (7).
13 Navigation aid of sailor following people like Copernicus (4,4).
15 Vast number involved in tough ordeal (5).
18 Joint stays painful when cut on both sides (5).
20 Metalworker can hit hard (8).
23 Drive off without current car cleaner (7).
25 See one embedded in frozen gel, say (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 20851. A grid of letters corresponding to the crossword clues.

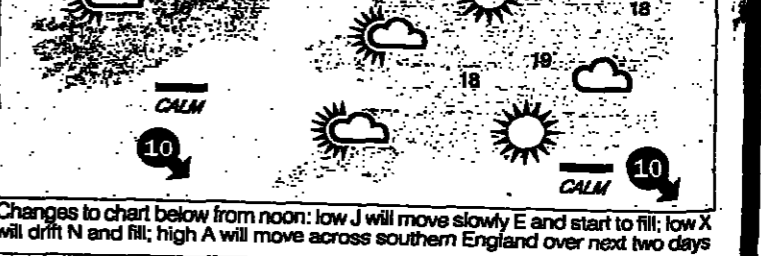
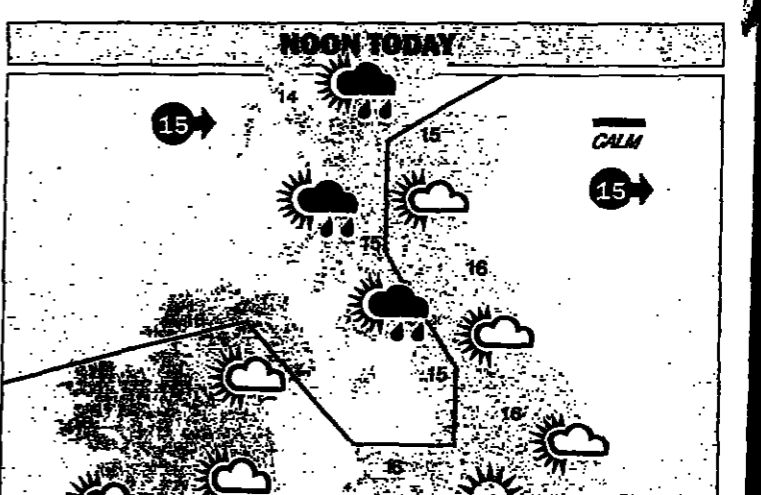
Latest Road and Weather conditions. UK Weather: All regions 0326 444 910. UK Roads - All regions 0326 401 410. Weather by Fax: 0326 401 344. World City Weather: 0326 412 110. Motorway: 0326 401 882. Car reports by Fax: 0326 412 399.

Hours of darkness. Sun sets: 5:12 am. Sun sets: 9:01 pm. Moon sets: 9:23 pm. Moon rises: 5:13 am.

FORECAST. General: showers in Scotland, North Wales, North West England and North Wales. Specific: London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England: sunny early and late, cloud increasing in afternoon.

Table with columns for location, sun, rain, max, min, and other weather metrics for various UK cities like Aberdeen, Glasgow, London, etc.

Table with columns for location, sun, rain, max, min, and other weather metrics for various international cities like Moscow, Tokyo, Sydney, etc.



HIGH TIDES table with columns for location, AM, HT, PM, HT, TODAY, AM, HT, PM, HT. Locations include Aberdeen, Liverpool, London Bridge, etc.

HIGHEST & LOWEST table with columns for location, highest, lowest, and other weather data. Locations include Lowestoft, Capel Celyn, etc.

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Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially obscured, mentioning 'By George' and 'value'.



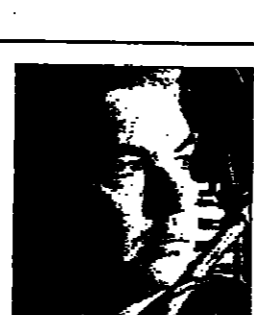
INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY



BUSINESS Mexican banks have still not recovered from Carlos Salinas PAGE 29



ARTS Remembering the golden age of radio comedy PAGES 32-35



MEDIA Matthew Bannister defends his plans for BBC radio PAGES 36-39

ARE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TOO LONG? EDUCATION PAGE 41

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY JULY 24 1998

Fear of a slump wipes £1bn off ICI's value

BY CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

A STOCK MARKET gripped by fear of recession wiped £1 billion off the value of ICI after Britain's largest chemical group warned of lower profits in the second half of the year.

ICI blamed the anticipated downturn on the financial crisis in Asia, the strength of the pound and the cyclical recession in bulk chemicals, a business which ICI has been trying to sell for a year.

City analysts cut their profit forecasts for the year by as much as 15 per cent. In the space of two months expectations of ICI's 1998 pre-tax result have fallen from £50 million to £360 million.

The chemicals group yesterday announced a rise in pre-tax profits from £95 million to £110 million for the second quarter with a 10 per cent rise in profits at constant currencies from the new speciality chemical business in the first half of the year.

However, bulk chemicals barely broke even in the first half and the company is expecting losses in the second six months. ICI's acrylics business has been hit by the chill wind in Asia, a major market for the material. Meanwhile, the core paints business suffered as ICI waged a futile price war with Sherwin Williams in the US.

Charles Miller Smith, ICI's chief executive, said yesterday that the company had "scored an own goal" in paints, attempting to gain market share in the US at the expense of margin. But he said ICI's decision to shift its portfolio towards the "lighter end" with the purchase of Quest, the fragrances business, and National Starch had been justified in view of the expected second half downturn.

Some City observers were yesterday questioning whether ICI would be able to secure an extra £500 million in net disposal proceeds from the sale of bulk chemicals and be able to sign a deal before the end of the year.

One analyst, Michael Eastwood of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, questioned whether ICI's acrylics and polyurethane business should remain in the group, given the volatility in their markets.

Mr Miller Smith said there was no question of cutting the dividend which is being maintained at 12.5p for the half year. Earnings per share before exceptional items were 18.8p (11p). Tempus, page 28

Nationwide just wins vote against conversion

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

THE Nationwide will remain a building society after members voted against conversion to a bank by the narrowest of margins.

A majority of just 33,710, out of 2.2 million votes, scuppered hopes of a £2,000 conversion windfall for members. Charles Nunneley, chairman, whose board staked its future on a vote against conversion, was openly relieved at the outcome but admitted the vote had been on a "knife edge".

The society does not have to put conversion to the vote for another three years, although members who favour demutualisation can seek election to the board. Yesterday Michael Hardern, a campaigner for demutualisation who failed to get elected to the board, said: "This is a hollow victory for Nationwide. The tide is turning our way."

He said he believed the narrow victory for Nationwide could leave it vulnerable to takeovers. The poll asked the society's 4.9 million members whether the Nationwide should follow other building societies and convert to a bank.

Of the 2.2 million who voted, 49.2 per cent were in favour of conversion, while 50.8 per cent were against. Brian Davis, chief executive, said: "Now we have had a democratic debate on the conversion issue, we are looking forward to demonstrating to our members the long-term benefits we deliver as a building society."

The society denied that the

closeness of the vote meant Nationwide was now open to a hostile bid from a predator such as Prudential or Lloyds TSB. Mr Nunneley claimed the society had not received any approaches, nor did it want to be approached.

He pointed out that only 20 per cent of its members voted for conversion. Any full conversion vote would need 75 per cent to vote in favour, and 50 per cent of members to vote.

The society revealed the results of the poll at a stormy annual meeting at London's Royal Lancaster hotel. The 800 members that attended the meeting were concerned about Mr Davis's pay, which rose 25 per cent this year to reach nearly £600,000.

The design of the voting paper also attracted criticism, with some questioning the legality of the vote. Some members had claimed the design of the form was misleading, as it was unclear how to vote against the board.

Quentin Langley, a long-term Nationwide borrower and saver, said: "If this vote had been in a third-world dictatorship, it would not have been declared fair by the UN."

Other building societies welcomed the Nationwide victory. Christopher Rodrigues, chief executive of the Bradford & Bingley, said that it was a strong endorsement of the board's position. He added: "The silence of the majority endorses the status quo."

After the meeting, Rosina Ellis, of Merton Park, South West London, said: "I am happy it stayed as a building society. I didn't want it to become a bank. However, it will not take too long for another person to come along and try to turn it into a bank."



A relieved Charles Nunneley after the result of the Nationwide's poll was announced

Cost cuts by Rover threaten further 20,000

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

UP TO 20,000 engineering jobs could be lost after Rover's decision to switch £1 billion of orders for components to cheaper overseas suppliers.

Britain's biggest carmaker also confirmed that it is axing up to 3,000 existing and planned jobs. The reduction in components orders will hit manufacturers such as Unipart, GKN and LucasVarity and hundreds of second-tier small engineering businesses.

Rover's new saloon, codenamed the R40, will have up to 30 per cent of its components sourced overseas, compared with the current 15 per cent for other Rover models. But the shift away from the UK will spread across the carmaker's range and, according to industry insiders, threaten 20,000 jobs.

John Neill, chief executive of Unipart, said he hoped components businesses could compensate by winning other work by being competitive.

But hundreds of small suppliers to larger components groups are unlikely to weather the storm. The T&G and AEEU unions have both warned of the fall-out across manufacturing.

Talks between the unions and Rover on plans for a four-day week at some plants, overtime bans and greater working flexibility will resume on Monday. Rover has blamed the strength of sterling for the cost cuts.

BMW, Rover's parent, yesterday said its profits for the first half of the year had increased 17 per cent to DM511 million (£176 million).

Car workers reaction, page 4

BUSINESS TODAY

Table with financial data including FTSE 100, US RATE, LONDON MONEY, and BRENT OIL.

United News to demerge its brokerage

BY RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

LORD HOLLICK, the chief executive of United News and Media, yesterday announced the demerger of the group's broking and financial services businesses into a new public company to be called Garban.

The broking business was the traditional core of the group when it was called MAI and JN Vasseur. Lord Hollick always said he was happy to have it as part of the group, because of the cash flow and profits. Yesterday he said: "Our focus is now very much on the media."

At the same time United said it planned to keep its dividend at a constant level from 1999 until dividend cover reached 2.5 times earnings. When the target had been reached dividends would then grow in line with earnings.

but would maintain the 2.5 times cover. The demerger will be carried out by distributing new shares in Garban to United shareholders. In the year to the end of December Garban, which boasts a broking network spanning 27 financial centres and covers the broking of foreign exchange, money market deposits and derivatives, generated a trading profit of £49.6 million. On flotation the company could be worth about £250 million.

Charles Gregson and Graham Hill will remain chairman and chief executive of Garban. Mr Gregson will remain an executive director of United responsible for businesses such as NOP, PR Newswire and VCG, the stock photography business.

Microsoft faces 'pressure on Apple' inquiry

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

MICROSOFT is to face a fresh US Justice Department inquiry, this time into allegations that it put pressure on Apple to stay out of the market for multimedia software.

Apple, a long-time rival of Microsoft, surprised analysts by forming a strategic link with the group last year. It has told the Justice Department of three approaches by Microsoft executives about the multimedia software market.

The Justice Department wants to know whether these involved pressure on Apple to walk away from the high-growth sector in return for endorsements of other Apple products.

Apple has been ordered to give information to the Justice Department. The move will reinforce the feelings many

Apple customers have about its link with Microsoft. They booed when the deal was announced at an Apple conference last year.

Microsoft has rejected all suggestions of wrongdoing, claiming that discussions with Apple and other competitors were common.

A Microsoft spokesman said: "Microsoft has had ongoing conversations with Apple about ways to make our multimedia software products more compatible for consumers, even as we continue to compete against each other."

The possibility of another Justice Department lawsuit over alleged anti-competitive behaviour by Microsoft comes as the company founded by Bill Gates prepares for an anti-trust trial in September.

By George, Michael returns to Sony

BY CHRIS AYRES



Michael: rift with Sony healed

GEORGE MICHAEL, the pop star recently charged with lewd conduct after an incident in a Los Angeles public lavatory, is getting back together with his former record company, Sony, after dragging it through one of the most damaging and expensive legal battles of musical history.

The British star, who vowed four years ago never to produce records again for Sony Music, is working on three new tracks for the company, all of which are potential hit singles. Mr Michael, who became famous with the band Wham! in the 1980s and went on to produce successful solo albums such as Faith and Listen Without Prejudice, took Sony to court

in 1994, claiming his contract was unfair and restrictive. The singer lost the dispute, at a cost of about £3 million. However, the contract was bought out by Virgin Records and DreamWorks, the entertainment company co-founded by Stephen Spielberg, the Hollywood film director, in a deal worth an estimated \$55 million (£33 million).

Mr Michael's new songs will be added to a compilation album of his previous hits to be released this autumn by Sony, in time for the Christmas rush. The record company, owned by the Japanese electronics giant of the same name, is now thought to be trying to woo the reclusive singer back full-time. Paul Russell, president of Sony

Music Entertainment Europe, yesterday said Mr Michael was co-operating fully on the album. The record can be produced independently of the singer's new record companies, he said, because of a clause in his legal settlement with Sony.

Mr Russell said: "After that tremendous public spat, we are back together working on a new project. We're hoping that he'll tour on the back of the album. I'd love to poach George Michael, there is nothing more I'd like than to have him back. Anything is possible in this business."

EMI, the parent company of Virgin Records — formerly owned by Richard Branson — would not comment yesterday on the terms of Mr Michael's record contract.

Mercury's Private Clients have much to celebrate. Advertisement featuring champagne glasses and a Mercury Asset Management logo.

\*Based on buying to selling prices with net income reinvested to 1.7.98. The figures include a 3% reduction in the Fund's initial charge, available to Mercury's direct Private Clients over the period. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and are not guaranteed.

# Bae prospects lifted by French merger

By ADAM SAGE AND ADAM JONES

FRANCE predicted yesterday that British Aerospace and Dasa of Germany will join the new aircraft and defence group it is creating through the partial privatisation of Aerospatiale.

The restructuring provides a tantalising glimpse of a European aerospace group that could compete with the likes of Boeing in the US. The prospect of such a company emerging lifted British Aerospace shares by 10p to 480p at the close of trading.

The French Government said on Wednesday night that it will merge

Aerospatiale with the Matra Hautes Technologies defence arm of Lagardère, the privately owned French conglomerate.

The announcement comes after months of calls for France to withdraw from aerospace, one of its flagship industries, but the link to Matra, which has a joint space venture with GEC and a missiles venture with BAE, was unexpected.

Analysts had expected Aerospatiale to merge its aerospace branch with the family-run Dassault group and its missiles arm with the recently privatised Thomson-CSF, which had campaigned fiercely against BAE.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the

French Finance Minister, said yesterday that he saw BAE and Dasa joining the new grouping to form a pan-European company that would "guarantee our defence in the years to come". The Finance Minister was instrumental in promoting the partial privatisation of Aerospatiale.

After the merger, on January 1, 1999, Matra will hold about 33 per cent of Aerospatiale's shares, with another 20 per cent floated on the stock market.

The Government stake will be less than 50 per cent, but it will retain a golden share. Employees will be given a 5 per cent stake, allowing Socialist ministers to tell Communist allies

less than half the capital will be in the private sector.

Dasa and BAE are still likely to press the French for firm commitments to full privatisation. A Dasa spokesman said: "The European concern should not have a state shareholder. This goes in the right direction, but it is not the end of the road."

With annual revenue of about £7.7 billion (£7.82 billion), the new company will be among the world's five biggest defence and aerospace groups.

Philippe Camus, co-director of Lagardère, said he expected Thomson-CSF and Alenia of Italy to merge their missiles business with Matra BAE Dynamics, which will be half-

owned by the new Aerospatiale grouping. BAE will be cautious not to let any such expansion unduly dilute its influence, industry sources said.

The new Aerospatiale group will seek to become a magnet for European space industry consolidation. There was speculation yesterday that this would reduce the influence GEC enjoyed in the Matra Marconi Space joint venture and GEC shares fell 20p to 517p.

Germany welcomed the news that France would cut its holding in Aerospatiale, but said a complete sell-off would be needed to make possible the creation of a united European aerospace company.

## Thorntons director moves into fashion

THORNTONS, the chocolate manufacturer, has lost Jonathan Fellows, its finance director, to Bon Marche, the fast-growing ladieswear retailer. Roger Paffard, the chief executive of Thornton's, said that Mr Fellows's resignation was not connected to last week's trading statement, which said the company is withdrawing 15 times of unpopular chocolates at an expected cost of £300,000. He said: "We tried to persuade him to stay, but it was clear that he is very keen to take on this job. He will be a loss to the company."

Bon Marche was set up 13 years ago in Doncaster by Gurchari Chima, who still owns the company with his brother Gurmail. It runs 185 stores from Southampton to Newcastle, and intends to own 400 shops within seven years. It competes with C&A and Marks & Spencer selling large-size clothes for ladies aged between 40 and 60 and has annual sales of £85 million. Mr Fellows was paid around £100,000 a year at Thornton's, and is not receiving any compensation.

## Koehler heads EBRD

HORST Koehler, the head of the German Savings Bank Association, has been elected president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He replaces Jacques de Larosière, who left the London-based development bank in January. The bank has gained a reputation for lavish spending on its accommodation and staff, though it has worked hard on developing projects particularly in the former Eastern bloc. Mr Koehler is the first German president.

## Standard shuns Isas

STANDARD LIFE, the largest mutual assurance company in Europe, has dealt a blow to Government proposals for the new individual savings accounts (Isas) by announcing it will not set the life assurance component of Isas. The insurer believes other major companies could follow its lead and leave Isas to smaller companies and friendly societies. It says the life component will not offer any significant advantages over existing products and customers found Isas too complicated.

## ICS falls into the red

SHARES in Industrial Control Services fell 13 per cent after the troubled industrial safety systems group reported year-end losses of £34.5 million, compared with a pre-tax profit of £7.3 million. Included in the loss is £26.4 million in exceptional charges relating to stock write-offs, financial penalties and property write-downs. In December 1997, ICS was saved from receivership by a £32 million open offer of shares. Turnover for the year to May 31 was £75.3 million (£90.3 million).

## Campaign on arrears

THE Government has pledged to continue its crackdown on rogue directors after figures showed a 13 per cent rise to 1,275 in the number of directors banned in the year to June 30. Nigel Griffiths, the Consumer Affairs Minister, said that this proved the campaign to tackle unfit directors was paying off. More attention is to be paid to arrears of VAT, PAYE and national insurance contributions. More than 900 people have contacted a Name and Shame Hotline since January.

## US link boosts Eurodis

EURODIS ELECTRON, the pan-European distributor of electronic components, said pre-tax profits recovered to £9.28 million from £3.02 million in the year to May 31. The company said the results reflected early benefits of last year's alliance with America's Pioneer-Standard, which helped to counter the adverse impact of the strong pound and the downturn in Asian markets. Earnings rose to 8.7p a share from 1.29p. The total dividend is increased to 5.6p a share (5.1p).

## Coutts wins MoD deal

COUTTS CONSULTING GROUP, the outplacement company, has won a five-year Ministry of Defence contract to help people who leave the forces to re-settle into civilian life. The company said the contract would have a significant impact on its results. Coutts made pre-tax profits of £2 million for the six months to the end of June, compared with losses of £7.5 million previously when there was substantial charge against the disposal of its residential training division.

## Car sales record at DC Cook

By JASON NISSE

DEREK COOK, the chairman of car dealer DC Cook, said yesterday that orders for August were at the strongest level he has seen during 30 years in the motor trade.

The dealership group, which is mainly located in the North of England, has seen strong demand for all the marques it sells, with Fiat, Renault and VW standing out from the pack.

Mr Cook dismissed many of the worries that have surfaced about the motor trade in recent weeks, which followed profits warnings from dealers led by Car Group. He said the second-hand market was still good, although prices have fallen in nearly-new models. The only problem was finding enough of the popular cars such as VW, Audi and Jaguar.

DC Cook is to continue its aggressive expansion strategy, which has seen it double in size in the last year. The cost of this growth held back profits in the year to April 30, when they slipped from £5.04 million to £3.53 million. Earnings fell from 8.1p to 5.42p and the dividend is held at 1.6p.



David Prosser, left, with Robin Phipps, director of sales and marketing at L&G, where individual sales rose 27 per cent

# Legal & General beats forecasts with £187m

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

SHARES in Legal & General rose 25p to 745p yesterday as the insurer surprised the City with a sparkling set of first-half results that showed pre-tax profits up 20.6 per cent to £187 million.

The rise exceeded analysts' expectations. They had forecast profits between £173 million and £180 million. It also reflects Legal & General's increasingly high profile among private investors and City institutions, both of whom like L&G's cheap, no-nonsense index tracking funds.

Total individual sales rose 27 per cent to £273.4 million, on the back of strong demand for personal pensions, with-profit bonds and Peps.

By achieving this leap in vol-

ume, Legal & General is more than making up for the increased pressure on its margins, particularly in the highly competitive pensions market. Its performance is in stark contrast to Norwich Union and Sun Life & Provincial, which both recently reported disappointing new business figures for their first halves.

L&G is doubling the size of its call centres in Cardiff and Birmingham, with the creation of 500 new jobs to cope with the dramatic increase in demand from investors who prefer to deal with the company over the telephone. More than 22 per cent of its individual sales now come from such calls, just two years after the call centres were established.

The company also continued to woo individual financial advisers, who provided half of its new business, an increase of 43 per cent.

However, the company scored its biggest hit in the City, where pension fund trustees switched a massive £5.1 billion of assets away from active fund managers to Legal & General.

Trustees have tired of traditional managers who try, but frequently fail, to beat the returns from stock market indices, preferring Legal & General's ability to track, simply and inexpensively, the same indices. In the past year, Legal & General has increased its funds under management by £20 billion to £74.6 billion. David Prosser, group chief

executive, said: "Other fund managers have stumbled on the active side. Trustees are either switching all their pension assets to us or are using us to run their core funds and putting a small amount in active satellite funds. Either way, it is a huge increase in business for us."

Shareholders were pleased to see the embedded value of L&G's £30 billion life fund grow £430 million to £3.43 billion.

The picture was only soured by small losses in L&G's lending, healthcare and estate agency businesses. The company declared an interim dividend of 4.56p, up 14 per cent. Earnings rose from 8.25p to 10.29p a share.

## Northern Rock repays £3m to investors

By SUSAN EMMETT

NORTHERN ROCK has paid £3 million in back-dated interest as a result of the savings fiasco that started an Office of Fair Trading inquiry.

The payment to around 200,000 savers, who were left worse off in a reshuffle of accounts, was revealed as the former building society announced an 11 per cent rise in half-year pre-tax profits to £102 million.

The bank's market share of net new lending grew to 10.3 per cent, more than three times last year's share of 3 per cent. Its share of the savings market grew from 1.8 per cent to 4.2 per cent.

Net interest margins in the first half fell to 1.69 per cent, from 1.92 per cent last year. Adam Applegarth, the executive director, said: "Our margin has come down because we are growing and taking market share, but because we are the lowest cost provider, we have managed to make up our return on equity."

Although the formal part of the OFT's investigation has now ended, the watchdog is still monitoring the bank.

Mr Applegarth said that the handling of the account restructure had been clumsy. However, City analysts agreed that the debacle had no lasting effect on the company's performance. Michael Lever, banking analyst at HSBC, said Northern Rock's performance was much better than most other companies. "It is likely to be the most successful former building society in terms of growth in market share."

Robert Law, banking analyst at Lehman Brothers, said: "The main issue is whether they can continue to generate volume growth to offset the lower margins. They think they can, and we agree."

	Bank Buys	Bank Sales
Australia S.	2.75	2.57
Austria Sch.	21.71	20.25
Belgium Fr.	69.89	58.63
Canada S.	2.581	2.389
Cyprus Cyp £	0.5078	0.5380
Denmark Kr.	11.80	10.91
Finland Mk.	8.50	8.75
France Fr.	10.23	9.85
Germany Dm.	3.107	2.885
Greece Dr.	314	475
Hong Kong \$	12.55	12.58
Iceland	130	110
Ireland P.	1.2254	1.1384
Israel Sh.	8.42	5.78
Italy Lit.	3076	2839
Japan Yen.	248.88	229.40
Korea W.	0.690	0.621
Malta	3.509	3.214
New Zealand \$N.Z.	3.07	3.07
Norway Kr.	13.03	12.11
Portugal Esc.	313.63	281.80
S Africa Rd.	10.83	9.87
Spain Ptas.	281.36	242.57
Sweden Kr.	13.88	12.78
Switzerland Fr.	2.632	2.414
Turkey Lira	49878	47110
USA \$	1.750	1.607

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Strength of sterling hits Hamleys

Barings ap

Can it be true? Have millions of citizens actually voted against the opportunity to enjoy a windfall of around £1,000 apiece? Well, not exactly.

# Warm feelings with the Nationwide



### COMMENTARY by our City Editor

The Nationwide directors naturally espouse the view that the 2.7 million members who failed to register a vote were demonstrating their support for mutuality rather than ignorance or apathy. They might find it dangerous to rely too much on that analysis in the future.

those offered by the banks, including those newly converted from mutual status, but many customers would have to wait several years to reap a benefit from those better rates that would make it worthwhile financially forgoing the potential windfall.

that they are fit and proper to be trusted with looking after all the family finances in much the same way as the old-style bank manager once was.

All right, the State will still keep a little less than 50 per cent of its champion, but the plan to merge Aerospatiale with the defence arm of Lagardère neatly prepares the way for the important negotiations to begin.

Rafale fighter. The new merger is the second stage, giving Aerospatiale half of Matra BAE Dynamics.

single European aerospace group, preferring to keep customers in the US. British defence companies are increasingly coming to the view that they will benefit from creating parallel businesses which are pan-European and transatlantic.

are to be covered by a funded scheme, taxpayers will have to pay their contributions much of the time. This is pre-funded means-tested benefit rather than a pension. It is also expensive.

### Hold your stake and eat it

Everyone likes the idea of a cheap funded stakeholder pension that will entitle us all to an income on top of the shrinking basic state pension.

### A simple policy

STANDARD LIFE is the first, but surely not the only, company to decide that it will not offer the life insurance component of the Isa.

## Merger with JJB brings £35m cash for Hunter

By FRASER NELSON

TOM HUNTER, the entrepreneur who bought Sports Division from Sears for just £20 million, is to make £250 million from yesterday's deal to merge the company with JJB Sports, its rival.

really. This is a straight takeover with David Whelan in the driving seat — quite why Tom Hunter caved in is a moot point.



Sir Nigel Rudd, chairman of Pilkington, told shareholders that apart from its US problem, trading was as expected

## Pilkington losing \$2m a week over GM strike

By ADAM JONES

THE continuing strike at General Motors is costing Pilkington, the UK group that supplies glass to GM, \$2 million (£1.2 million) a week in lost profits.

told its annual shareholder meeting that trading in the first three months of the year was in line with expectations.

## Strength of sterling hits Hamleys

HAMLEYS, which owns the world's oldest toyshop in Regent Street, London, saw its shares plunge 27 per cent to a record low of 160p after Howard Dyer, chairman, said that the strong pound was depriving the store of crucial tourist income.

## Sun fails to shine for Boots shares

By FRASER NELSON

LACKlustRE demand for suntan lotion, sunglasses and aftersun has taken its toll on Boots, which yesterday gave warning that the absence of the British summer has depressed current trading.

However, the core Boots retail business managed a 3.3 per cent like-for-like sales growth over April, May and June and 7.7 per cent overall.

## Gamblers on a roll hurt Capital Corp

CAPITAL Corporation saw its shares sink to a new low of 68½p yesterday — an 8 per cent drop — after it admitted that gamblers had enjoyed an extended winning streak.

## Barings appoints ex-UBS chief

By RICHARD MILES  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

DAVID ROBINS, the former London head of investment bank UBS who left after the merger with SBC Warburg Dillon Read, is to join ING Barings as its chief executive officer.

Mr Robins replaces Arjun Mathrani, a former Chase investment banker who quit Barings after just five months in the job because of an apparent disagreement with Dutch parent ING Group over strategic direction.

yesterday that his new role presented an enormous opportunity. "Barings has been a very strong company in the past and one can get over these issues," he said.

## Cookson suffers surprise drop

By TIMON DAY

DELAYS in awarding cabling contracts, price cutting in polyester fibres and the strength of sterling combined to knock Cookson Group's first-half profits by an unexpected 8 per cent to £78.9 million.

the engineering division recorded a 33 per cent rise to £13 million helped by acquisitions. Cookson Fibres, the bigger of the two businesses that are up for sale worth almost £100 million, reported a 30 per cent profit drop to £5.7 million as lower polyester fibre prices hit Far Eastern profits.

# If someone told you that you could make your mortgage repayments whenever you could afford it, what would you say?

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- (c) Yeah, sure. And I'm Lord Lucan
- (d) Where do I sign?

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# The uneasy relationship of the new taskforce tycoons

**S**o goodbye Sir Colin Marshall, President of the CBI and member of Panel 2000. And welcome the grandly titled Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge, jobbing peer, chairman of the London Development Partnership and member of the Government's environmental and EMU preparation taskforces. And somehow he still finds the time to act as chairman of British Airways, Inchcape and Siebe.

Lord Marshall is one of those fortunate people for whom one door shutting tends not so much to lead to another one opening as to half a dozen new opportunities suddenly coming his way. The elevation to the Lords, however, took him by surprise and has stretched even his ability to find time to meet all his commitments. There is no obligation for him to show up, but it is hard to imagine Lord Marshall missing the opportunity to carve out a niche in the House. Come the autumn, when he can get his diary in order, Hansard will be littered with his contributions to debates on such hot topics as transport, London and business.

Lord Marshall is symptomatic of a subtle but important shift in the relationship

between senior business figures and the Government. Despite Labour's frequent claims of being business-friendly, there are few people with substantial industry experience directly in the Government. One or two long-standing Labour figures have a business background, most notably, Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, who is probably feeling at the moment that his years in industry are as much of a hindrance as a help to his political career. The Government's only major coup, however, has been the appointment of Lord Simon of Highbury as minister for competitiveness in Europe, a man who even Lord Marshall describes as "Britain's number one business leader".

The smattering of businessmen directly in Government, however, pales into insignificance compared with the proliferation of industry leaders on its fringes. Aside from Lord Marshall, such figures as Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, Sir Peter Davis, chief executive of Prudential, and Chris Haskins, chairman of Northern Foods, have lent their expertise in an advisory capacity.

The Government appears to be breeding a modern form of the committee men-

the great and the good who devote their spare time to such minor matters as running the country. Unlike their predecessors — who have been all but eradicated bar one or two in the sporting world — these "taskforce tycoons" are consummate professionals. The rapid improvement in the quality of business directors during the past 20 years — borne out by a report from the Institute of Directors last week — has consigned the gifted, or not-so-talented, amateur to history. Ambitious businessmen have to work long hours, which does not encourage making the kind of commitments necessary to build a modern political career. The tightening up of conflict of interest regulations and the growing earnings gap between the top of the private and public sectors also precludes professionalising full-time politicians.

In this sense, the plethora of Govern-



ALASDAIR MURRAY

ment taskforces, development agencies and policy groups, is serving a vital purpose. The project-based approach of the taskforce mimics the way many companies deal with problems, providing a familiar environment in which businessmen can air their views. It enables the Government to involve a wide spectrum of interests in the decision-making process, providing clear evidence to business that Ministers are not just listening to but actively canvassing the business view. In short, it is a means of compensating for the fact that the professionalisation of both business and politics has led to a shortage of figures who can straddle both vocations.

The process is also decidedly non-political. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, used his tenth anniversary speech this week to talk about the "natural liberal majority" in the country con-

sisting of the Labour right, the LibDems and the Tory left and centre. Tony Blair has targeted the same ground and his willingness to call upon business figures with no previous Labour credentials is an important plank in this strategy. Lord Marshall is a classic example of this phenomenon. Colleagues say his instincts are Tory but like many senior business figures, his approach is decidedly pragmatic and he is clearly happy to work with any Government willing to listen to his views. The fact that he is not a Labour man has been demonstrated by his decision to sit on the cross-benches.

There are inevitably going to be problems with this new relationship between business and politics. The heavy reliance on committees and taskforces, as Lord Marshall will admit, risks creating a large number of expensive talking shops. Only employing business experts on the fringes of Government, reduces the dangers of conflict of interest difficulties. It is not always clear whether taskforce members are representing their business or sitting in an individual capacity. While Lord Marshall insists that he serves on committees as an individual, he

the outside world he will remain first and foremost chairman of BA.

The recent furor over lobbying has raised questions over how these appointments are made and it is only a matter of time before there is an apparent conflict of interest. There have been murmurings about Lord Marshall's position vis-à-vis Terminal 5 at Heathrow, which is so central to BA's future.

Shareholders might also worry about the commitments this new breed of committee men are prepared to take on. Lord Marshall is insistent that he can cope with his many roles through hard work and good control of his diary and says he has had no complaint about his dedication from the executive members of his company boards. To the one-job-only outside world, however, there is a perception that some committee men and women are spreading themselves too thinly.

The pressures that have created this new relationship, however, are not going away. When a change of Government eventually comes, the new Lord Marshalls of the day will be willing to offer their part-time help, because the taskforce tycoon is here to stay.

# Mexican wave of banking rescues is a poor economic model for Asia

Clinton may be impressed, but political opposition is mounting, writes Nicholas Wilson

**W**hile the world tells Asia to copy Mexico's bank bailout, Mexico's Government is under siege by its Congress and taxpayers. The rescue which has so impressed the IMF, World Bank and President Clinton may cost the Government the next election.

In a \$61 billion (£37 billion) operation, equal to 14 per cent of GDP, the Government took over a collapsing financial system, burdened with defaulted debt, fraud, and money laundering. With Congress trying an audit of the bailout, its financial and costs are still rising. The presidency of José Lopez Portillo — which ran from 1976 to 1982 — sowed the seeds of the bank crisis.

In 1982, Señor Lopez Portillo blamed the banks, which he called "dollar suckers" for a peso devaluation, and nationalized them. The Government converted dollar accounts into pesos, at 50 pesos to the dollar — the market rate was 98 pesos. "It was straight theft," said Dr Emilio Martínez, who lost money in the takeover.

Limits were placed on foreign currency transactions. A long-term resident said: "A whole bunch of black market activity took place. Two of my in-laws spent a day changing money in different money exchanges, stuffed \$190,000 into their mother's tights and headed for Miami's banks. On their plane were nervous, bulky friends, work colleagues and relatives. There were nearly a billion dollars on board."

The international financial community blessed the banks' reprivatization by the Harvard-trained economist, Carlos Salinas, who was president



Controversy surrounds the efforts of Ernesto Zedillo, left, the Mexican President, to deal with the banking reforms of his predecessor, Carlos Salinas



Portillo: nationalised banks

from 1988 to 1994. Between 1990 and 1992, his administration sold 18 banks for about \$10 billion. Previous owners were barred from the sale, regulations were eased, and bidders paid up to four times the banks' book value.

Pedro González, an economist at the Mexican Institute of Political Studies, says that the overpricing "caused a short-term, money-recovery mentality rather than sensible banking. Owners behaving like stock market players, low competitiveness, lax supervision, cronyism, and the government's inability to solve the debt crisis drove the system to near collapse."

Almost free of regulations, the owners started a frenzy of self-loans, loans to relatives, friends, their own companies, other bank owners, ghost companies, and guarantee-free loans. Fraud and money laundering also hurt the system.

According to media reports, the president of Banpisa bank, Angel Rodríguez, ("El Divino" — The Divine One), lent himself and his family \$400 million, which they never paid back, leaving the Government

to buy their debts. Señor Rodríguez says they only borrowed \$180 million and he is only accused of embezzling \$10 million.

In response to El Divino's high profile defence campaign, the National Banking and Securities Commission recently put advertisements in the national press saying that Rodríguez, his father, and other Banpisa executives received about \$900 million in loans from the bank.

Señor Rodríguez also lent to Jorge Lankenau and Carlos Cabal, former presidents of Confía bank and Union and Cremi banks respectively. Lankenau is in jail on fraud charges, having jumped house arrest, while Cabal is said to be in Spain.

Secrecy is a Government norm and the amount they are accused of embezzling is unknown. Dolores Padriana, a congresswoman for the leftist Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), said: "Even I, a member of the Congressional Accounting Office, cannot get figures from the Government about how much these bankers are accused of stealing."

Meanwhile, the Jurez drug cartel ran Anhuac bank. In June, a US sting operation indicted three Mexican banks, Confía, Bancomer and Santander, and 26 employees from 12 Mexican banks, for laundering drug money. The

resulting from the operation to Confía's owner at the time the money laundering took place — the Government's bank bailout fund (Fobaproa). Founded in 1990, Fobaproa is Mexico's equivalent of the US Resolution Trust Company, founded 10 years earlier to deal with the savings & loan crisis. Fobaproa is allowed to buy and sell debt, recapitalize banks, take over and sell assets.

Loan defaulting, not crime, was the system's Achilles heel. Credit control and background checks were loose. In 1991-1994, loans grew 10 times faster than the economy. The banks' crumbling foundations gave way during the 1994 peso devaluation and subsequent recession. In 1995, interest rates hit 110 per cent, inflation reached 52 per cent, and GDP shrivelled to 7 per cent.

Before current President Ernesto Zedillo, a Yale-trained economist, could rebuild the economy, it had to pick up the pieces of financial institutions.

Señor Zedillo used Fobaproa to rescue banks by exchanging non-performing loans for 10-year bonds paying

## Taxes to rise for Brown's review

From Mr Maurice Fitzpatrick

Sir, You report ("Consumer confidence barometer takes a dive", July 21) on evidence given by Alistair Darling, the Treasury Chief Secretary, to the Treasury Select Committee. Mr Darling apparently told the committee that the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) commitments could be afforded without extra taxes. His statement gives the misleading impression that taxes will not be rising under this Government in order to pay for the CSR. In fact, taxes will be rising sharply.

Treasury figures show that, on a like for like basis, tax as a proportion of GDP will increase from 36 per cent in 1996-97 (the Conservative's final year) to 38.6 per cent in 2001-02 (the likely final year of Labour's first five-year term). This increase is worth some £25 billion per annum by 2001-02, equivalent to raising the basic rate of income tax by well over 10p in the pound.

Mr Darling would no doubt point out that taxes were not in any event set to go up over this period, as a result of measures already legislated for by the Conservatives but now being implemented by the current Government. He would be correct. However, of the £25 billion per annum tax increase by 2001-02, around £10 billion per annum arises from the specific incremental tax increases announced in the Chancellor's first two Budgets — including the further chipping away of personal tax reliefs.

Opinion polls consistently indicate that people are prepared to back a policy which involves increasing tax to provide more funds for public services.

The Treasury should be big enough to admit that this is precisely what its policy is. Yours faithfully, MAURICE FITZPATRICK, Head of Economics, Chantrey Velaourt, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF.

Letters will be sent by fax to 0171 762 5112 or by e-mail to letters@btinternet.com. Letters should carry a daytime phone number.

## City limits

**T**HE latest big City institution to cast its eyes downriver is, I understand, Bankers Trust, which is looking to expand out of the limited space the US bank has on the north side of Broadgate after the purchase of NatWest Markets. Bankers Trust wants to double the existing space of about 250,000 sq ft or, alternatively, to find new offices of as much as 800,000 sq ft.

So the old story: there are very few potential developments of that size in the City, although I suppose Spitalfields might do at a pinch if Life accepts the inevitable and gives up the site, and it is very hard to put one together. No one at the bank is returning my calls, but I hear that one option, as ever, is Canary Wharf.

Strange to think that the ghosts of both Barclays and NatWest's broking divisions, once such forces in the City, would be confined there. It would be another blow for the Square Mile and must, surely, call into question a planning process that nods through most smaller developments but makes it difficult to retain the real big players.

**A COUPLE** of the dafter bits of City tradition went to the wall yesterday when the Corporation of London's Court of Common Council — the councillors and aldermen — met to consider the proposed voting reforms. Out went the aldermanic veto, which allows members to blackball anyone they don't much like, and they will now face re-election. The meeting also decided to cut the number of councillors in each ward. There was much discussion — "nothing we haven't heard before" sniffed one who was there — but the votes were almost unanimous. The whole package goes to a final vote in September.



**Police five**  
A REPORT on Newswroom South-East yesterday about the City of London Police, although largely fictitious, appears to have a grain of truth in it. The news bulletin claimed that as a result of budget cuts, 100 staff would be laid off and the police would cease to provide 24-hour ring-of-steel cover.

The truth, the City police tell me, is that their budget for this financial year has been reduced by £4.5 million from last year's £61 million and that their policy group is considering what savings will have to be made. There is no question of withdrawing round-the-clock cover, and no decision has been made on job cuts.

But further recruitment was frozen in April, and the force, which should employ 899 officers and 362 civilian staff, is about 100 jobs short of that.

The budget cuts seem to be the result of changes in the way cash is allocated by the Home Office, which is using a more needs-based approach. This means, baldly, that if you already have a high crime rate, you get more cash. The City, despite last year's 15 per cent rise in reported offences, is a relatively low-crime area.

**ROGER BOOTLE**, doyen of economists and one of the few whose output is comprehensible to the non-economist in the street, is leaving HSBC after ten years to set up his own consultancy. Bootle, a regular contributor to these pages, has had considerable success with his book, *The Death of Inflation*. He leaves at the end of the year and will need two men to replace him, Stephen King in charge of research and Peter Oppenheimer running investment strategy.

**Cold feet**  
SOME of them never learn, do they? Nigel Griffiths, under-secretary for competition and consumer affairs and a man who likes to style himself champion of the common man, was to attend a breakfast yesterday organised by LSA, a consultancy and lobby group run by Laura Sandys, daughter of the late Lord Sandys. We can assume, I think, that the breakfast was organised well before the recent furor over such pests, and the invitation I have makes it clear that he is the main draw.

He is also clearly there in his capacity as a minister. Yet Griffiths, who seems to be acquiring a reputation for high-handedness, will not say if he attended. "The minister has no comment to make," was the pompous answer from his office. Sandys tells me the breakfast was "part of the normal consultation process between ministers and the commercial sector" and that he pulled out two days ago.

**MARTIN WALLER**



Nigel Griffiths broke off his breakfast briefing

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Enterprise Capital Trust PLC Registered office: 11 Walker Street Edinburgh EH3 7NE	Kleinwort Benson Securities Limited P.O. Box 560 20 Fenchurch Street London EC3P 3DB
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24 July 1998

"You've got to spend more on our birthday presents"

Equities reduce losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Table of equity prices for various sectors including ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, BANKS, BREWERIES, PUBS & REST, BUILDING MATERIALS, CHEMICALS, CONSTRUCTION, DISTRIBUTORS, and FOOD MANUFACTURERS.

Table of equity prices for various sectors including ENGINEERING VEHICLES, FOOD MANUFACTURERS, HEALTHCARE, HOUSEHOLD GOODS & TEXT, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, LEISURE & HOTELS, MEDIA, MINING, OIL & GAS, PHARMACEUTICALS, PRINTING & PAPER, PROPERTY, RETAILERS FOOD, RETAILERS GENERAL, SUPPORT SERVICES, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT, and WATER.

Table of equity prices for various sectors including BRITISH FUNDS, SHORTS (under 5 years), LONGS (over 15 years), UNDATED, MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years), and INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation at.

Table of equity prices for various sectors including OTHER FINANCIAL, PHARMACEUTICALS, PRINTING & PAPER, PROPERTY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT, and WATER.

Table of equity prices for various sectors including RETAILERS FOOD, RETAILERS GENERAL, SUPPORT SERVICES, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT, and WATER.

Advertisement for Diners Club International featuring a map of the world and the text 'The take charge card' with phone number 0800 88 77 74.

Table of unit trust prices for various funds including: THE COUNTY UNIT TRUST LTD, CANADA LIFE INVESTMENT LTD, CANTON LIFE INVESTMENT LTD, and others. Columns include fund name, price, and change.

Table of unit trust prices for various funds including: INVESTORS TRONIC, INVESTORS TRONIC, INVESTORS TRONIC, and others. Columns include fund name, price, and change.

Table of unit trust prices for various funds including: INVESTORS TRONIC, INVESTORS TRONIC, INVESTORS TRONIC, and others. Columns include fund name, price, and change.





# THE TIMES ARTS



**THEATRE**  
Spectacle and style at the Galway Festival  
THIS PAGE

**POP**  
South Africa's finest come to Wembley  
PAGE 35

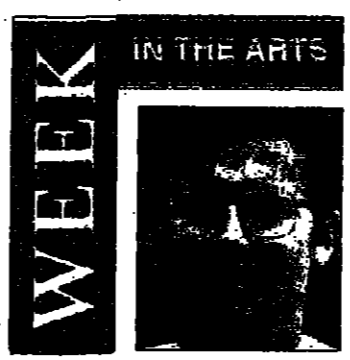


I never met her, yet when I was a lad she always seemed to be with us for lunch on Sunday. Until this week I had never seen a photograph of her, though as a ten-year-old I must have imagined her as a hundred different faces in a hundred improbable scenarios. She and her colleagues never tried to be anything except blissfully funny. Yet they shaped my imagination, my language, even my sense of growing up to become that bizarre, buttoned-up, complex thing called "English", far more than any teacher did or could.

## Oh bold, very bold - and wonderful

ing to *Round the Horne*. Everybody had their windows open, everybody was laughing. A snarl-up had turned into a festival. That was how Barry Took recalled it, and you may say he was biased, since he co-wrote *Round the Horne*. But he tells it like it was. Everybody did listen to *Round the Horne* and its predecessor, *Beyond our Ken*. And last Saturday its only female star, Betty Marsden, died at the age of 79.

*Round the Horne's* scripts were wickedly early. Three decades on, some lines echo in my mind still: "He was bent over his work - but off duty, straight as a die" or "I've got a hansom outside". But that does not entirely explain why the show won such huge audiences. As Took noted later, *Round the Horne* was created at a time when most people thought radio was already dead. In a sense, its five-year flowering (Horne died in 1969) was a *trompe l'oeil*: a grand illusion that radio could still be a prime force in mass entertainment, a glorious anachronism, like a heatwave in autumn.



RICHARD MORRISON

Horne - a quintessential "straight man" in every sense - battles his way through fantastical encounters with Baroque creations called Gruntfuttock, or Spasn, or Gladys Lustigrtle, clearly belongs to this venerable tradition. But it had an extra twist: it utilised a remarkable generation

of comedians who had honed their skills - and their acute sense of the absurd - while serving in the Forces. Horne himself had been an RAF wing-commander, Kenneth Williams had been in the Army, Marsden had toured with ENSA. Some of the greatest surreal comedy of our century - from *Catch 22* to *M\*A\*S\*H* and *Bilko* - drew inspiration from the unbending absurdities of military life. *Round the Horne* gave that same impression of free spirits making a mental dash for escape from a regime of stifling conformity.

ridicule. Long before homosexuals were accepted in British law (that change came in 1967), Julian and Sandy had effected a *de facto* public acceptance of an entire alternative lifestyle. What *Round the Horne* did ridicule was the Establishment - which meant even the BBC itself. Digs at the "BBC Censorship Department" abounded; and other BBC comedies were mercilessly lampooned. "I've got the script of *The Clitheroe Kid* in my hand," Horne threatened, when cornered by one of Kenneth Williams's homicidal maniacs, "and I'm not afraid to read it."

dodgy PR consultants, bijou caterers and "resting" actors - the very warp and weft of Swinging London. The ebullience of the resulting comedy - not to mention the filth of the innuendos - swept away decades of insipid and paternalistic inhibition at the BBC. But even as Horne recorded his last programmes, the old "variety" comedians were losing ground. Oxbridge smart alecs took over the comedy schedules in the Seventies. Now self-obsessed stand-ups flood into every Fringe nook and Channel 4 cranny. Is that progress? As we desperately search the airwaves for some new British comedy that is half as funny as the top American sitcoms, we have to admit room for doubt.

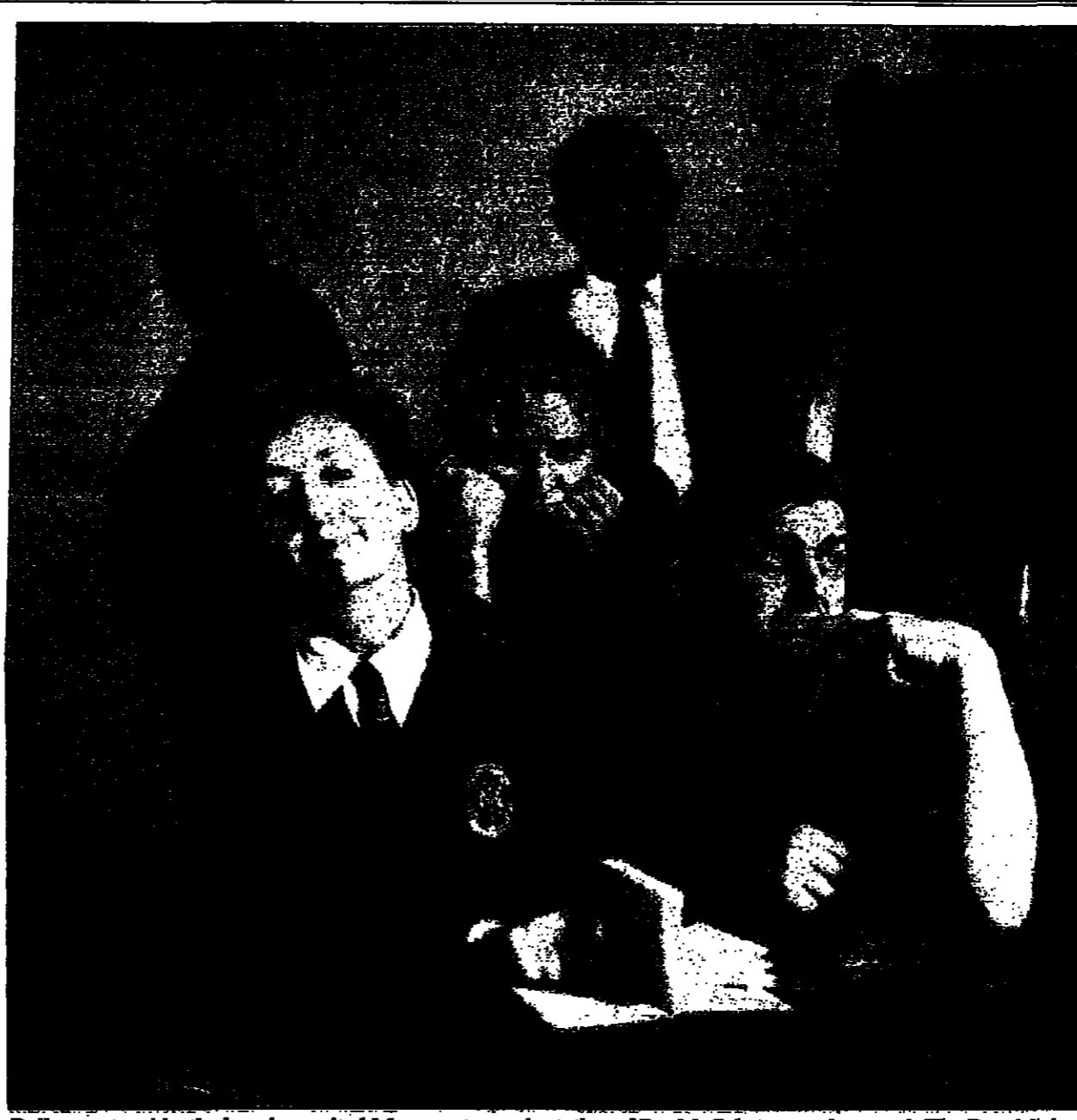
## Rain doesn't stop plays

Outdoor standing. Waterproof clothing advisable. read the warning for *Titanic*, a pyrotechnic live version of the great maritime disaster story. The advice could have been applied to more than one event at this year's humid Galway Arts Festival.

**THEATRE:**  
Luke Clancy reports on a waterlogged Galway Festival

The Macnas parade, the all-dancing, all-covoring puppet-heads, high-point of the fortnight, took place in a downpour, with the company's elaborate masks, costumes and floats thoroughly doused. And even indoor events, such as Footsbarn's Big Top production of *The Winter's Tale*, were performed to a soundtrack of pummeling rain.

*The Dead School*, Pat McCabe's follow-up novel to *The Butcher Boy*. Directed for the stage by Joe O'Byrne, who also directed *Frank Pig Says Hello*, the stage version of McCabe's earlier book, the play always had an enormous task capturing the fugitive voices that echo through the author's complex, polyphonic novel.



Rollercoaster ride: the keenly awaited Macnas stage adaptation of Pat McCabe's complex novel, *The Dead School*

It seems like an intelligent and even promising approach to McCabe's intricate, often hallucinatory, prose, but it is not sufficiently well-orchestrated here to hit the mark. The energy on stage seems to zip up and down uncontrollably, all too often sinking lowest at moments of the most frenetic activity.

Lally, as the old schoolmaster, does not seize the role with much avidity. The rest of the cast, who move between play-

## Money makes us all go around

The roads to this bewitching countryside theatre have been rerouted in the past year but the almost completed Newbury bypass intrudes less on Bagnor's views than was feared. Conditions may become very different when the heavy traffic starts roaring, only a few hundred yards beyond the trees. But perhaps by then the theatre will have gone, now that it has lost another of its few subsidies - the £20,000 from Southern Arts. The zest and imagination so vividly evident in John Doyle's current production show the quality of entertainment that will be lost to the area.

Mark Bailey's design converts the stage end of the auditorium to the round, with seats placed behind tables there and the side galleries uniting above them. Tarts in black silk lean against the walls waiting for business to begin, men in stockings stare indifferently into the middle distance or adjust a suspender. Everyone's lips are as scarlet as blood.

After the shadows, the no less horrific light of flames flickering in the woodwind's *Vagues de lumière*. And then, like a long-awaited assuaging, the work's first long breaths of melody, sung high in the violins, warmed by unresolved chords, muted brass and pitched percussion, pierced by solo trombone. It is an uneasy truce, this deliberately enigmatic *Dominante bleue*, with its final question mark.

## Brain of a Britain long gone



Nobody says "there's trouble at t'mill" in Andrew Taylor's adaptation of John Braine's novel, but someone does tell the protagonist, an accountant for Warley Town Council, that "all's not well down at t'library". He might have added that there's cheeky goings-on behind them curtains, rum doings at t'Conservative Club, and queer happenings at the amateur dramatics. A thin stage furnished with little more than a pair of brown leather chairs, plus the odd street or moor sound, can scarcely match Jack Clayton's movie when it comes to evoking black-and-grey Yorkshire, but the dialogue and the accents seem pretty much what they should be.

and one of the best British films of the 1950s to be discovered? If so, Roy Marsden and his cast have not proved it.

Myself, I still remember Laurence Harvey's stealthy, sexy performance as Joe Lampton, the go-getting clerk who falls under the spell of an older woman, only to reject her for the marriageable daughter of Warley's Mr Big, the man with the grand house at t'rop, Councillor Brown. Simon Lenagan is a chunkier, grimmer, less glamorous figure, and hence probably what that defiantly chunky, grim, unglamorous Yorkshireman, John Braine, had in mind. But it is idle to pretend that his deceptions and amours are dramatically as mesmerizing as that Lampton had slumped his way to the bottom, rather than slept it to the top. I don't think we would have cared either more or less.

Young Man era. Though the action occurs just after the war, Braine's book appeared in 1957, a year after Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*. Lampton has little of Jimmy Porter's artifice and none of his cranky idealism, but he has all his chippiness and more. He wants wealth, status, power, especially if they are at the expense of folk like his rival for Susan Brown's hand, a snooty prat who talks of "the pater" and says "toodly-pip". Stage production evokes caricature like that for what it is. But it also emphasizes that the class divide is not what the Braines and Osbornes felt it to be 40 or 50 years ago.

Tara Moran is a sweet Susan, Peter Sproule a Brown who quivers and blusters but lacks avoidance, Cheryl Kennedy a touching if insufficiently sensual mistress for Joe. There is attractiveness and energy as well as ("you make me feel funny inside, I never felt like that before") period clunkiness on display. But why is *Room at the Top* at the King's Head at all? I never really found out.

In his responses to the Second World War, Dutilleux found a musical world in Poulenc; and so it was on Wednesday, when this new work was preceded by the older composer's *Gloria*. Yan Pascal Tortelier and the BBC Philharmonic found the glinting nervous tension at the heart of its ecstasy, with Allison Hagley ideally cast as the angel-wait of a soprano soloist.

True northern grit: Cheryl Kennedy (Alice Aisgill), Simon Lenagan (Joe Lampton) and Tara Moran (Susan Brown)

Still, the evening does leave you pondering the Angry

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

JEREMY KINGSTON

HILARY FINCH

## PROMS

The 82-year-old Henri Dutilleux sat quietly and unobtrusively in the audience, not even rising to take a bow, as the Prom-naders listened with rapt attention to the UK premiere of his latest and darkest work, *The Shadows of Time*.

LISTINGS
Pidgin Shakespeare

ARTS

POP

Four grand old men

Bus-pass master

SOMEONE must have left the stage-door open, because all sorts of guests kept wandering in and interrupting the action. Not that James Brown seemed unduly concerned. Now that he has passed his 65th birthday, Soul Brother No 1 has to go easy on the shimmying.

LIVE GIGS
James Brown
Dandiger

What we saw was an old-fashioned roadshow of the kind that is almost extinct. The comparisons with Ray Charles are not far-fetched. He and Brown (who is only some three years younger) belong to the same school of perfectionists who are equally comfortable with rhythm and blues, light jazz harmonies and straight-ahead pop.

Earlier, the driving tempo of his 1980s 'comeback' anthem 'Livin' in America' had given way to the early doo-wopting tinged 'Try Me'. The guitar-driven funk sometimes teetered into self-indulgence as Brown stepped back to allow his soloists more space. Whenever that happened, the roots of overblown 1970s bands such as Parliament were hard to miss. The rest was majestic. If his troubles with the law have made him a dubious role-model for today's rappers, Brown still makes the newcomers look like rank amateurs.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON
CLIVE DAVIS

English girl gets the blues

CHRISTINE LEVINE
Awkward Angel
(Boilerhouse/Arista
74321 60046 £15.49)

NEW POP
ALBUMS

THERE has been a curious tendency for the handful of solo female stars to have emerged from this country during the past decade to sound more American than British. It is a tradition which Christine Levine, from Birkenhead, does nothing to challenge, save for the fact that the influences at work on her impressive first album, Awkward Angel, are borrowed more freely from the blues-rock end of the spectrum than from the world of uptown R&B.

After a challenging start to her career, which involved carting her equipment around in a shopping trolley to perform in local pubs, Levine, now 25, was discovered by Andy Dean and Ben Wolff, the production duo best known for their work with Gabrielle and Texas, and now co-founders of their own Boilerhouse record label.

Levine's most distinctive trait is a pseudo-Appalachian yodel which works to especially good effect on the chorus of 'Funky Things', where her voice abruptly heads for the stratosphere. So, while the guitar-driven arrangements of tracks such as 'Parallel Lines' and 'These are the Days' have a rather sturdy, rock ordinaire feel, Levine's performances are sufficiently passionate to keep the album buoyant.

Catching the sort of over-ambitious influences that tend to set alarm bells ringing — notably the Jimi Hendrix Experience and Cream — they nevertheless avoid the lurking danger of guitar-trio overkill by opting for an unusually dry production and lyrics which scrupulously eschew the macho clichés that bedevil the genre.



Christine Levine is the authentic voice of American blues-rock (by way of Birkenhead)

FINGER Swollen (Milk/SRD MILCD001 £14.49)

IT WAS Grace Jones who called herself a Slave to the Rhythm, but most of the modern pop world is currently in thrall to the belting, polyrhythmic drum machine loops and pulses which are now available to musicians and produc-

ers at the push of a button. And few of them push it quite like Finger, the duo comprising Si John, better known for his work as bass player with Roni Size, and Alex Swift, who has recently been programming with Peter Gabriel.

Their first album, Swollen, is a tour de force of restlessly shifting beats, including the frantically tense drum'n'bass scramble of 'Bloop', the slow, trip-hop shuffle of 'Breakdown No 1', the rock hard breakbeats of 'Done' and the languid dub/acid jazz groove of 'Third Eye Remix'.

Catchy fragments of melody and other instrumentation impinge here and there on the complex percussive frenzy, but harmony and vocals, let alone lyrics, are definitely out. The result is an intensely pure and physically propulsive experience.

1958 WAS a very good year. Jerry Lee Lewis was at No 1 with Great Balls of Fire, Little Richard was riding high with Good Golly Miss Molly and Chuck Berry was in the charts with Sweet Little Sixteen. In the intervening 40 years, this legendary trio of rock'n'roll survivors have done everything from prison to religion, and before this year is out they will have clocked up a collective double century between them. None has made a decent record in decades yet they can still thrill on stage, and to find all three of them sharing the same bill was irresistible.

Looking nothing like a hell-raiser he sat sedately at the piano, and managed just one high leg kick during the 25 minutes he was on stage. He sang a couple of country numbers and did a truly awful version of 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' before finally unleashing those trademark growls and pounding piano chords on 'Cherry Lips' and 'Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On'. He closed inevitably with Great Balls of Fire, but the best thing about his brief set

was the guitar work of James Burton, a legendary figure. Little Richard, 65, was far more exuberant. Dressed in a satin blue spangly suit, he looked fabulous, at least from two dozen rows back, and was soon screaming his way through Good Golly Miss

Molly, barking like a dog on Fats Domino's Blueberry Hill and then inviting a sizeable portion of the audience on stage to dance. His band was superb, particularly the brass section.

He was forced to call a halt in the middle of Gene Vincent's Be-Bop-A-Lula when his throat cracked but no one really minded, particularly as he then set off into the home straight with Tutti Frutti and an absolutely frantic Long Tall Sally. Less popular were

beginning to reach a wider audience thanks to a growing network of media supporters for whom spreading the word about this remarkable singer from Washington DC has become something of a mission. Songbird is an aptly titled distillation of tracks from the two albums that she recorded, and gives some indication of the extraordinary purity of her vocal tone and her unusual facility for performing in virtual silence, yet always imbued with a wealth of haunting emotion.

Equally at home with jazz (Autumn Leaves), gospel (Wade in the Water), R&B (People Get Ready) and even an old showtune (Over the Rainbow), her style was simplicity itself, yet always imbued with a wealth of haunting emotion.

EVAS CASSIDY'S career had barely got started when she died of melanoma in 1996, at the age of 33. But her music is

Old rockers never die

the 3,000 copies he circulated of a religious tract. Chuck Berry has played some shoddy shows in his time but thankfully this was not one of them. At 71 his voice has lost power but, willed on by the audience, which included George Harrison, he could hardly fail. We didn't have to wait long for the famous duck walk during No Particular Place To Go. Yet it was the straight-ahead rockers such as Sweet Little Sixteen and Johnny B Goode which most pleased. Hall, hail rock'n'roll, he sang. And how we did.

DAVID SINCLAIR

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marti Hargie

LONDON

BBC PROMS: The weekend kicks off with a concert tonight by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Osmo Vänskä, featuring Bruckner and Mozart. Tomorrow John Eliot Gardiner conducts the Monteverdi Choir and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in a semi-staging of Verdi's Falstaff, while on Sunday the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under Matthias Bamert perform Kurt Weill's Professor and Mr. Smith's Four.



Matthias Bamert conducts Professor at the Proms

PIDGIN MACBETH: Wol Nambawan (world premiere) of Ken Campbell's sensational South Pacific version of 'Macbeth' with the Pidgin Players. Two parts only, also.

TRIPLE BILL: An exciting showcase for the Royal Ballet's principal dancers includes Marius Petipa's Concerto, Nureyev's sumptuous Raymonda Act III and Divergence by choreographers Peppe and Christopher Wheeldon.

WIGMORE HALL: The dazzling American baritone Rodney Giljary sings songs by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms et al tonight (7.30pm). The Stormy Coast Choir also performs tomorrow with works by Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms (7.30pm). Wigmore Hall (0171-635 2141).

ELSEWHERE

CHESTER: In the Festival grand finale Yan Pascal Tonnelier conducts the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra and

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London

- 2.5 MINUTE RIDE: American performance artist Lisa Kron... OKLAHOMA! The well-known musical stars... WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND: Lloyd Webber's new musical... DOCTOR DOLITTLE: Philip Schofield plays the man who can talk to animals... SHAKEPEARE'S WILLIAMS: Steven Berkoff's one-man show of many William Shakespeare plays...

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

Geoff Brown's choice of the best movies

- ANIMAL FARM (U): Revival of Helen and Bachlor's noteworthy 1954 cartoon... THE CASTLE (HS): Disarming off-beat Australian comedy... THE DAYTRIPPERS (HS): Lovable low-budget comedy about suburbanites... THE GRINGERHEAD MAN (HS): Successful Savannah lawyer Kenneth Brangham is lured into trouble... LA GRANDE ILLUSION (U): Renard's great prison camp drama... HANA-BI (HS): Sadoyuki with a terminally ill wife returns to crime.

ART GALLERIES

- ISABEL HANBURY: PAINTING THE SALLEY 1 to 31 July 1998... CINEMAS: COLISEUM 0171 632 6300... EXHIBITIONS: 16 NEW ARTISTS 24th July - 4th August...

OPERA & BALLET

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THEATRES

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CONCERTS

- SHANTLESBY THEATRE... THE DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET 40TH ANNIVERSARY UK TOUR... OCTOBER 23 BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY HALL... TUESDAY 27 LEICESTER DE MONTFORT HALL... THURSDAY 27 NEWCASTLE CITY HALL... FRIDAY 30 MANCHESTER BROGROWATER HALL... SUNDAY 1 GLASGOW CLYDE AUDITORIUM... MONDAY 2 LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC HALL... THURSDAY 12 NORTHAMPTON DEBAGATE... SUNDAY 15 BELFAST WATERFRONT HALL

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Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, featuring 'POP SINGERS', 'WORLD', 'TOP CL ONLY', and 'MUSIC'.

Large horizontal advertisement at the bottom of the page, featuring 'WIGAN NOW OPEN' and 'موسيقى من الأصيل'.

WORLD MUSIC: Nigel Williamson on Ladysmith Black Mambazo, headliners of this weekend's Womad Festival

Thanks to a tin of baked beans

At the beginning of this year Ladysmith Black Mambazo's joyful Isicathamiya was adopted by Heinz as the theme tune for its baked beans television adverts. The exposure catapulted the song to chart success, perhaps the most unlikely hit single since the shaven-headed devotees of the Radha Krishna Temple chanted their way into the Top Ten almost 30 years ago.

Yet if the idea of a cappella Zulu choir in the charts seems strange, then for a long time so did the prospect of South Africa making a non-violent transition to majority rule. Today the rainbow nation is one of the miracles of our age and to sit with Joseph Shabalala, Ladysmith's founder and musical director, celebrating the group's success in the lounge of Durban's five-star Royal Hotel on the eve of a sell-out European tour is a special joy.

Special because a few years ago Shabalala would not even have been allowed in this former bastion of white privilege, unless he was there to shine shoes or wait at tables. These days he is treated like a celebrity. "But even in the darkest days I always told the guys that the task before us was not greater than the power behind us," he says.

It is a philosophy which has guided his country from oppression to democracy and his singing group from township struggle to international stardom. With their profile higher than at any time since Paul Simon first brought them to our attention on his *Graceland* album, Ladysmith's ten-strong troupe tomorrow entertain the festival crowd at Womad and perform for a South Bank audience the following night.

Now in his early fifties, Shabalala is a charismatic figure, an ambassador for South African culture with a voice brimming with cadence and rhythm even when he is speaking. His quiet strength and unfailing enthusiasm seem to characterize the very soul of South African music, proud and joyous but also imbued with a deep sadness and a profound resilience in the face of log years of adversity.

An ordained lay teacher, he insists that allowing Ladysmith's music to be used to sell baked beans has no compromised its spirit. "Some people said it wasn't right to do commercials, that we would lose the dignity of our harmonies," he says. "But I am a representative of traditional music and it is my job to share it with people. It doesn't alter the purity of our traditions. It just like

shaking hands. It won't change us." The music of Ladysmith, with its typically complex Zulu vocal harmonies, is known as isicathamiya, which translated literally means the tip-toe guys. I ask Shabalala how the name came about. "When the men left their homes in the villages to work in the gold mines and the factories, they took their songs with them. But they had to stay in all-male hostels which meant copying the sound of the women's voices, which is how the harmonies developed. Then they would accompany the traditional songs with a stomping dance but that broke the wooden floors and cracked the con-

'Paul Simon opened the gates for us. Musicians were starving in South Africa'

crete ones, so the dances were outlawed. They were forced to do a tip-toe instead and the name stuck." Shabalala himself moved from his rural village to work in the factories of Ladysmith in 1958. A deeply religious man who believes that God directs his every move, his music, he says, came to him in a vision. "In 1964 I had a dream and I heard these beautiful sounds of people singing. The dream persisted for six months and I listened until I learnt to imitate all of the voices. Then I knew I could compose."

By the end of the 1960s, he had formed Ladysmith Black Mambazo. "It means the black axe, not as in killing people but as a symbol of our voices paving the way, like cutting the trees through a forest to create a road. But I never thought of getting paid to sing."

By the time Paul Simon heard them in 1985, they had established themselves as the most famous black choral group in southern Africa. Shabalala has nothing but praise for the American singer with whom he co-wrote *Homeless* on the *Graceland* album. "Paul Simon opened the gates for us. Musicians were starving in South Africa. Before he came along we had only ever sung to black people in our lives."

Yet the record was hugely controversial and created seri-

ous problems for Shabalala and his colleagues, as Simon had technically breached the UN's cultural boycott. "We had no place at home for a while after that. People said to me this man is exploiting the music but I told them he was just a musician not a politician. They asked me if he paid me properly and I said he treated me well. But it was a very difficult time."

Once Nelson Mandela was released the situation changed. Shabalala and his group accompanied the ANC leader and F.W. de Klerk to perform in Oslo when the two men received the Nobel Peace Prize. "Mandela recognised that Paul Simon had done a great thing in presenting us to white people overseas."

Since then Ladysmith have collaborated with the likes of Michael Jackson and Dolly Parton, but Shabalala has never strayed far from his Zulu roots. His latest project is to create a musical academy in the heart of his homeland that will unite black and white musicians, and a trust fund has been established with the aim of raising £5 million.

South Africa has come a long way on the path of reconciliation and unity but music, Shabalala believes, is the greatest healer of all. "Singing cleanses the soul and when the soul is clean everything is open."

Ladysmith Black Mambazo play the Womad Festival at Rivermead, Reading, tomorrow and the Festival Hall on Sunday



Zulu superstars: by the time Paul Simon heard them in 1985, Ladysmith Black Mambazo were the most famous black choral group in southern Africa

These are the tracks of my tears

Ever wondered why it is that no matter how fine an album is, one cut sucks big-time? Here's the reason

It was once calculated that someone, somewhere in the world, puts on a Beatles album every 12 1/2 minutes. This means that globally, four times an hour, someone is taken unawares and has to void the contents of their lap, flail across the room to the CD player and, with fingers made fumbly with hurry, flick past Ringo honking *Ac Naturally*. Or *What Goes On*. Or *Octopus's Garden*. This would be a cruel trick for any band to play, but that the Beatles have been so

thoughtless is a double face-slap. Their fans are either a) quite elderly now, crippled by the flash winkle-pickers of their youth and Bad Yoga; or b) young hipsters trying to be Noel Gallagher, listening to the later, heavier albums lying flat on the floor and feeling rather, ahem, woopy. Neither is up to a steeplechase over cluttered front room junk in order to hit "skip", while the first four disgusting bars ("Theeee-eeeee-eeeee you're gonna put me in the movies") trollop out of the speakers like a hag.



CAITLIN MORAN

The comedy joke song that ruins albums of otherwise unimpeachable joyousness — or the Ringo, as I like to refer to it — is often placed at a moment so psychologically inappropriate that horrified bits of your brain try to fold back in on themselves, and cause tumours in later life. One thrillingly ruinous case in point is on Blur's *Paralyse* album. After four years it is still a feast, ending in the stellar milky junket of *This is a Low*, the lullaby Damon wrote while feverish and alone in hospital. The song is so beloved that Blur still end all their concerts with it, playing to a swaying cradle of cigarette lighters. Unfortunately, should you try to recreate this kind of comforting foetal regression in your own home, you will notice that the last warm bite of *This is a Low* runs into *Lot 105*. That's the 73-second long slice of ITV steam-organ cheese that one imagines a hyper-real, zombieified Danny La Rue playing, ever more manically, until he explodes in a shower of long-dead light entertainment remains.

Tricky's cover of Public Enemy's *Black Steel* on *Maxinquaye* is placed with similar atmospheric evil. As one of the prima rumpy albums of the Nineties, *Maxinquaye* is all sticky liquid and heavy lids. Nothing moves suddenly; all is slow seduction and delicate insistent weight. Until, that is, track three, where *Black Steel* thrashes and clangs to life, shouts noisily about being conscripted into the army and generally acts like a parent bursting into a teenager's bedroom and shouting "Oh no — you don't do that in a *Christian house!*"

*Chocolate Cake*, from Crowded House's *Woodface*, is an almost unique Ringo in that it's the first track on the album: a horrid piano-thump with "wacky" lyrics about An-

drew Lloyd Webber's trousers falling down when he meets the Queen. The tragedy of it coming first is that it makes one rather jumpy while listening to the rest of the album — you rather expect *Four Seasons In One Day* or *Weather With You* suddenly to turn into *Size Of A Cow* and go plinky-plonk all the way down into hell.

This is the real, human cost of the Ringo: one is always nervy when approaching a new album, fearing the first jolly/thrasy chords of doom. The irony is that these niggling, spare flaps of flesh, these third thumbs and use-less nipples, are what keep bands going. Studios are such foetid hells — windowless, airless, stinky-drummer smell — that tensions start to broil and brew. Anyone who has listened to the legendary *Troggs Tapes* ("No! You're playing Duhduhduhduh duh duh! It's Duhduh duhduh duhduh! Get it? Right! Again!") will know just how close bands get to annihilating each other.

On top of this, modern recording techniques mean that bands split into two camps within the confines of the studio. The rhythm section plays to a click-track, and consequently finishes its labours on an album within a day, leaving them to get resentful, bored and drunk; while the lead singer and guitarist spend weeks over-dubbing, multi-tracking and getting into prog rock. In order to spend any time together, "jamming" has to occur. While jamming, bands start to enjoy themselves, and suddenly remember why they joined a band in the first place. They grin at each other while they play. The lead singer starts to make up nonsense lyrics to amuse his bandmates. When they start laughing, he — drunk with power — sings to them in a funny voice. "Alan," he'll shout to the snoring engineer, "press Record! We're on one!" Like empty vessels commandeered by satan, they play on into the dawn. They lovingly cut it down to just the nine minutes on the master tape: *Bob's Smacky Cat Mix* has to be on the final album. "It's the best fun we've had in three years!"

It brought the band back together again. It is their love-child. It is *Maxwell's Silver Hammer*. It is why I went out yesterday and bought a CD player with a remote.

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Bus-master

James Dean

UBECK ARTEI

media times

# Playing an all-new song

Radio 1's plans to attract more women are misguided, writes Carol Midgley

There was something distinctly snobbish about the grumpiness which greeted the news this week that Radio 1 is to get the lion's share of a £5 million fund to snazz up BBC radio. Indignation was almost tangible as it sank in that a pop station was taking precedence over the esteemed Radio 3 and 4.

One headline spoke of the BBC "robbing middle-class radio to pay for pop", which seems to suggest that it is only the working classes who enjoy popular music, and licence-fee payers who like pop are somehow less deserving than those who enjoy classical music and serious drama. Well, as one who listens to and enjoys all the BBC's radio stations at some point in the week, I can see nothing wrong with this decision.

Pop music's importance to Britain has never been greater. Thanks to home-grown talent, 70 per cent of the £8 billion domestic music sales last year were accounted for by pop, rock and dance CDs. As Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, is fond of telling us, in terms of export, pop music is now more important to the country than the steel industry. Surely then it is crucial that the BBC continues to play a key part in nurturing new acts via a well-funded pop station, distinct from the plethora of commercial stations which have sprung up in the past 20 years.

For those who believe that paying high salaries to decent DJs cannot be justified, here are some statistics. Radio 1, with a weekly reach of more than ten million, was allocated £38 million in the last financial year — a weekly cost of roughly 7p per listener. By contrast, Radio 3, with a weekly reach of about 2.8 million, got £63 million — a weekly cost of about 43p per listener.

Of course, no one is suggesting Radios 3 and 4 do not deserve their higher budgets, but two aspects of the decision to give Radio 1 first pick at the fighting fund do send out warnings bells. One, that the station is planning to

target more "young women", in the 15-24 age group, and two, that they plan to use the money to help fund "big-name DJs like Zoe Ball".

Appointing Zoe "check-my-hangover" Ball to host the *Breakfast Show* must surely rank as one of the worst decisions Radio 1 has ever made. Undeniable though her television talents are, she is not a radio personality, and thrusting her into a marriage of convenience with the usually excellent Kevin Greening makes them sound like a bad local radio station.

I do not know of a single female who can listen to the inanities of the present *Breakfast Show* without lunging for the off button. We know why Ball is there, of course: as a big name to offset the audience losses caused by Chris Evans's defection to Virgin. But the temptation to sign up celebrity names simply to buy newspaper headlines is one which BBC executives must resist.

BBC Director-General Sir John Birt wants more young women listening to Radio 1, so what will be done about it? Does it follow that we will soon see a pin-up like Jamie Theakston signed up as a key presenter? Such pin-ups might be good-looking, but do they know about music?

And why does Radio 1 want more women anyway? Politically incorrect as it may sound, young men are usually more obsessive about music than young women, and it will probably always be the case that more of them will tune in to Steve Lamacq's and John Peel's evening sessions than teenage girls.

At present, 53 per cent of Radio 1's audience are men and 47 per cent women — which does not seem too terrible a gulf.

If Radio 1 concentrates on being a good station, playing interesting music with quality radio presenters who know their stuff, then it will find that more people will listen. And does it really matter whether they happen to be women or men?

Young men are more obsessive about music



BBC Radio 1's *Breakfast Show* hosts Zoe Ball and Kevin Greening

# Tuning in with a sensible approach

It has been famously written that the relationship between a journalist and a politician should be akin to that between a dog and a lamppost. On the whole, it is a sound doctrine, although there can be rare exceptions.

It would be churlish, therefore, not to admit that Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sports Secretary, who has been the target of occasional pre-reshuffle whisperings from the lobby, has had a good couple of weeks. He has come up with an extra £290 million over three years for his department to spend.

This may be small potatoes compared with health, education and transport, but at least it keeps the noses of the "culture industries" firmly in the trough. Later today he will outline plans to increase the efficiency with which that money is used by trying to reduce the number of bodies responsible for its distribution.

The necessary call of quangos will primarily hit the film industry, with the British Film Institute, British Screen, the Film Commission and the film spending parts of the Arts Council in line to be brought together into a single British film agency.

The precise structure has yet to be determined. What, for instance, should the new agency's relationship be with the planned All Industry Film Fund — a splendid wheeze under which those who benefit disproportionately from the British film industry, such as broadcasters and American cinema owners and distributors, should "voluntarily" put something back into British production. But the principle is sound and Smith should ignore the inevitable squawks from the lobbies before they head off to their villas in Tuscany.

The main reason, however, that Smith and, indeed, Margaret Beckett at the Department of Trade and Industry, deserve momentary praise is for this week's Green Paper, *Regulating Communications — Approaching Convergence in the Information Age*.

"Long-term, complex and dull" is how one senior civil servant described the document, with perfect accuracy. However, its importance lies in its approach.

The siren voices of Gerald Kaufman's Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee have been ever so politely ignored. So, there will be no instant lurch in the direction of a single regulator for all the communication industries or

setting a date for switching off existing analogue broadcasts before a single consumer home has been equipped with digital receivers, and before anybody knows what demand will be for 200 TV channels, complete with home shopping and home banking.

In a rare outburst of honesty, the politicians and their advisers have come out and said the unthinkable: that they simply do not know yet how all this will play out in people's lives.

So both the digital evangelists and those who believe that the status quo can be preserved in aspic have equally been sent packing in favour of an undramatic but sensible, evolutionary approach.

The Government believes that the existing regulatory framework is flexible and is encouraging the regulators to work more closely together. But the central insight is that, however marvelous the products of the IT industry, the behaviour of consumers will not change overnight and, indeed, that the pace of development will be slow and the end point uncertain.

The Paper's best guess is surely right: that of the foreseeable future, there will be a continuum of services with, at one end, a segment that looks very much like today's universal public

service broadcasting and, at the other, "a diverse and dynamic market of pay-TV, niche-on-demand and interactive services". Earlier this week, there were alarming reports suggesting that the Government planned to "liberate" ITV from "positive content controls", as they are known in the trade. It was even said that this liberation could start to influence the relicensing of ITV companies. It was also said that ITV could, if not free to become one company, begin to act like one. Mercifully, such speculation was wide of the mark. If the market were to produce a wide range of high-quality, diverse programming then, almost by definition, the "positive content controls" falling on ITV alone would start to look strange.

I wouldn't hold your breath. Such an eventuality is every bit as likely as the state fading away under Marxism. Instead of excitement and alarms, the old Ministry of Fun has produced a sober, boring, long-term, wise and necessary document. And so from the dog to the lamppost: congratulations.



Raymond Snoddy

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# A man misunderstood?

**Matthew Bannister** has been accused of abandoning BBC radio to pop culture but, he tells **Ray Snoddy**, his critics aren't listening

Matthew Bannister, the Director of BBC Radio, today will fight critics who have accused him of trying to sideline Radio 3 and Radio 4 in the search for new and younger listeners on Radios 1 and 5 Live.

"Pop goes the BBC" was the headline on a critical leading article in *The Times* earlier this week.

"I think people have misunderstood what we are trying to do," Bannister explains, in response to reports that he will be shaving money from the BBC's five national networks and spending it disproportionately on marketing and new programming initiatives for Radio 1 and 5 Live.

The issue has more than the usual resonance because it broke just after the two knights of the BBC, Sir John Birt, its Director-General, and Sir Christopher Bland, the corporation's Chairman, had been arguing for a licence fee increase to maintain the impact of the corporation's brand of public service broadcasting.

"What we are about is delivering a whole range of output, which is special and different to a whole range of different audiences," says Bannister, who has spent all his working life in radio, apart from a spell at the centre of the BBC's bureaucratic machine.

"We are not just about serving our heartland audiences, although we care passionately about them. We want to serve other people with programmes that they would not get on commercial radio."

It is an argument Bannister put yesterday to his staff and will make again today to journalists. Yet listen carefully to his words and it is clear that journalists have not misunderstood entirely.

Priorities are being set and the BBC radio audience is, to some extent, being divided into sheep and goats: the "heartland" audience compared with the new, as-yet-unobtainable audience that might be hooked with the right bait on Radio 1, 2 and 5 and whose presence will help to underpin the case for an imposed licence fee.

Of course, Radios 1, 2 and 5 Live have an opportunity to bring new listeners to the BBC and we would make those marketing priorities, and we don't believe it is the job of Radios 3 and 4 to try to expand the horizons of BBC Radio. It is their job to serve our heartland audiences and we want them to continue to do it and be well-funded to do it," Bannister, 41, says.

As usual, the BBC is marching to a strategy wrapped in marketing-speak. It wants to reach as wide an audience as possible "through strategically using our networks to reach different groups".

Radio 1 has the opportunity to attract young people to BBC radio. Radio 5 Live is bringing younger and more diverse people to speech radio than ever before, and Radio 2 is getting a new audience of middle-aged listeners for the "rich mix of BBC output". The facts are, Bannister explains, that radio this year has to save 4



Something in the air: Matthew Bannister, the Director of BBC Radio, says: "We are not just about serving our heartland audience, though we care about them"

percent as part of the BBC's overall corporate efficiency target.

In addition, radio heads of department are being asked to find a further 3 per cent from a programming budget of around £180 million — excluding 5 Live, which comes out of the BBC News budget — to "re-prioritise". Apart from marketing to attract new listeners, the money will go largely to live events "across all networks".

On Radio 3, Bannister says, this will help to pay for an Austro-Hungarian week in the autumn, featuring concerts by orchestras from Vienna and Prague.

On Radio 4, next year's Reith Lecture on globalisation by Anthony L. Giddens, the sociologist, will go worldwide.

Radio 1 is also likely to add carnivals in Bristol, Birmingham and other parts of the UK to its coverage of the Notting Hill Carnival, which has been successful in contacting the young black audience.

"What we are trying to do is invest the money in output that only the BBC makes and get credit for it, make a real impact

with that investment," says Bannister, who insists that the spending ratios between networks will not change. At the moment Radio 4 receives £90 million a year — or 31 per cent of the total spending on radio — while Radio 1, which gets £38 million, will continue to receive about 13 per cent. Senior BBC executives warn privately that as a result of the "re-prioritising" there will be less money for difficult documentaries. There is also no certainty that the new audience targets — for example young women in the North East — will be attracted to the BBC in greater numbers.

By Bannister's standards, the present controversy is a small one, although large issues lie below the surface. It was he who famously cleared out most of the middle-aged and older DJs in the revamp of Radio 1. Quite fairly, he refuses to take total responsibility for the decline in Radio 1's audience — from 18 million to 11



million — while he has been in charge. The fall coincided with the explosion of commercial radio stations mostly aimed at "the 15-44 demographic". Another one million listeners were lost when Radio 1's medium-wave frequencies were handed to the Government to become the commercial Talk Radio station.

"I was also absolutely clear that unless we could say why Radio 1 was different from commercial radio, it shouldn't be in the BBC," Bannister says.

Apart from future priorities, the revamp of Radio 1 and the gradual transformation of Radio 2 to bring in the 1960s generation, Bannister has overseen James Boyle's controversial changes as Controller of Radio 4. The first official listening figures will be released next month, and Bannister says the first signs are positive.

"I am cautiously optimistic that Radio 4 will show a small increase and that the

scheduling changes are drawing more people into the main programmes," Bannister says. He concedes that it will be two years before it becomes clear whether tussling with the Radio 4 audience has paid off. BBC research suggests that only 8 per cent of its listeners dislike the changes and 50 per cent say they didn't even notice.

The extended *Today* programme is in good shape though, "adjusting to the new length of the programme". He is also happy with *World at One*, which has benefited from being "tightened up as a result of being half-an-hour".

Bannister's next challenge is to promote digital radio and launch new digital services — including an archive music channel drawing on 30 years of Radio 1 output.

"I drove from Birmingham to Stratford-on-Avon and then down to London recently, listening to digital radio all the way, and it does work," says the man who is addicted to *The Archers*, a regular listener to *Kevin and Zoe's Morning Show* on Radio 1, and always listens to the Top 40 to make sure I know what is going on".

## Cut to the quick

THE man in charge of *Lakers* and *Clampers*, the BBC's big summer factual-soap hit, is on the verge of quitting. Stephen Lambert, who also runs the BBC's prestigious *Modern Times* series, has been offered a directorship of RDF, a leading independent company that makes documentaries for everyone, including Channel 4's *Cutting Edge*.

After 16 years, Lambert says, he's finding the BBC a nastier place to work, with programmes facing a double financial squeeze from annual "efficiency" cuts and new demands from this year to hand back a compulsory "surplus" to BBC production.

It has come to a pretty pass when respected staff producers think life will be easier in the independent sector, but Lambert's bitter experience stems from the cuts being forced through to allow 10 per cent of the BBC's income to fund digital services.

THE Independent Television Commission is playing a key role in the current government review, due to be published in September, when it might be possible to usher in the digital age by switching off current analogue broadcasting signals. But I hear it is taking an extremely cautious line, saying it is impossible to set a deadline and that viewers must be protected from the bamboozing of manufacturers. It's a far cry from the BBC's optimistic forecast of rapid take-up. If the ITC switch off could be 25 years away.

HERES an interesting comment on the impending cull of BBC newsreaders. ITN's experts say Tony Hall, chief executive of BBC News, is right to let current contracts go on hold. Few of his team, they say, have a market value outside the corporation. And compared with ITN there are too

many faces fronting the news when viewers like the same presenters day in, day out. But some newsreaders have other strings to their bow, including corporate work. If they must work more consistently in front of the camera, this could mean higher rather than lower pay... for the favoured few.

KAY MELLOR, the writer who creates gritty roles for women, has told Hollywood she got lost. Last autumn she was the subject of a *South Bank Show*, which filmed her working with ABC on an American version of her big Granada hit, *Band of Gold*. But at a British Academy seminar this week she said she had gone cold on doing anything with them. The experience of *Fitz*, the ABC/Granada emasculated version of *Cracker*, which

flopped, had been a timely warning. "I've got better things to do with my time."

AS A member of the Women in Journalism Group I attended a summer party at No 11, hosted by Gordon Brown. He chatted lyrically about the benefits of private investments in the public sector and proposed his plans to privatise the air traffic controllers, while holding a golden share. "What about applying that to the BBC?" asked a colleague. "Ah," said the Chancellor, a gleam in his eye.

THIS week's holier-than-thou award goes to Rosie Boycott, *Express* Editor, who moans that it was dragged into bad company over the PCC's adjudication on payments to convicted criminals. The watchdog backed *The Times* over its serialisation of the Mary Bell biography as it did the *Express* for the convicted killer Deborah Parry's story and *The Daily Telegraph* for serialising a book written by a former IRA terrorist.

Boycott sniffs that she would never have paid for the stories of Bell and Callaghan whom she dismisses as "self-confessed killers". Has she forgotten that Parry signed a confession to murder, later retracted. Further, does she think it significant that the PCC judged *The Times*' public interest justification to be "compelling" and the *Express*' merely "substantial"?

## An achievement worth praising

ONLY a select club of editors in the past 50 years have survived for 20 years, among them David Astor (27 years at *The Observer*), Arthur Christiansen (26 at the *Daily Express*) and the late Sir David English (20 at the *Daily Mail*). Another is Peter Preston, who edited *The Guardian* for 20 years until 1995 and who has just announced his retirement at the age of 60.

Modern journalism prefers to bury editors rather than to praise them, but the occasion of Preston's "retirement" — he will continue to write columns and is at work on his second novel — is an occasion to note his remarkable achievement. Few now remember quite how precarious the situation of *The Guardian* was in the 1960s and 1970s.

A merger with *The Times* had been only narrowly avoided in 1966 and Preston's first job as editor was to shut down *The Guardian*'s historic Cross Street building in Manchester, with 80 staff losing their livelihoods. There was constant competition from *The Times* and in the second half of his editorship the effect of the Wapping revolution and the launch of *The Independent*.

The death of Sir David English (an admirer of Preston's) last month evoked many commentaries on the qualities of a successful editor. Preston was a different animal from English, editing a different, up-market paper and shyer, less flamboyant, more withdrawn than English but with a wry sense of humour.

According to Liz Forgan, once his Women's Editor, he lacked what many consider essential qualities — an easy relaxed manner with men of power, a clear, easily commu-

nicated vision, the inspiration of affection in his staff.

Yet his apparent helplessness concealed an absolute mastery of every aspect of newspaper craftsmanship and an instinct for what the young, radical, left-leaning constituency he sought wanted to read. Along with all *The Guardian*'s noble political beliefs in liberty, truth and justice, there was also what Forgan described as a streak of vulgarity — an interest in foot-



ball and a bit of "crumple" on the front page. Journalists who worked with him also point to his Machiavellian qualities. They were qualities he required in full in an office where he let a thousand flowers bloom. It was often therefore riven with ferocious rows

his staff (an ability said to be inherited by his successor Alan Rusbridger) and left him free to steer *The Guardian* in the direction he chose. As Rusbridger points out, they were qualities which enabled him to become editor, chairman of the Guardian board, member of the Scott

Trust and member of the Guardian Media Group Board all at once.

There are troughs for all editors. The lowest point for Preston occurred in 1983 after the civil servant Sarah Tisdall leaked to *The Guardian* the date of the arrival of cruise missiles to the US base at Greenham Common. After publication, the document was not destroyed, the Government sued, *The Guardian* was forced to hand it back and Tisdall was jailed for six months. Preston became the target of a vicious hate campaign, particularly from the left, and many believe he nearly threw in the towel.

Yet he recovered and went on to see off *The Independent*, albeit by costing *The Guardian* a well-spent £3 million in its investment in the rival *Sunday Correspondent*, and masterminded the radical redesign that introduced the second tabloid section and, finally, initiated the investigations that brought down Tory MPs Jonathan Aitken and Neil Hamilton.

He also made *The Guardian* a market leader among national newspapers for classified ads in its education, society and media sections. When Preston inherited, the paper made continual losses and was kept alive by the profits of the *Manchester Evening News*. Its profit last year was £11 million. QED.

At the *Daily Mail*, the Editor Paul Dacre often derides *The Guardian*'s political views. Yet he salutes Preston's editorship as a great achievement. He created one of the strongest newspaper brands in Britain, he says, a well-targeted modern newspaper, secure in its niche market, a paper with integrity. "We admire it."



Former Guardian Editor Peter Preston, right, and his successor Alan Rusbridger

## The price of a BBC 'stinker'

Time for a review, says Stewart Purvis

AT LEAST we won't have to go through the records at Companies House any more, looking for clues to how much the BBC loses on some of its commercial ventures. Now we know, and it is a lot more than most of us imagine.

Amid an annual report full of pride at achievements in UK broadcasting sit some financial sinkers. But the Director-General's review doesn't give much away. We are not told how much the BBC World channel is losing, only that combined losses of the BBC World and BBC Prime channels reached £20 million.

The main "special factor" behind the BBC spending £9 million buying Pearson out of the holding company for the two channels, European Channel Management, is simple. Whereas a previous regime in Pearson was prepared to fund the BBC's development in the hope of later rewards, the current one was not. So the BBC now has to take the full losses. The US partner, Cox, has also gone.

America has been a weak link in the development of the two channels. A chart of "52 million subscribers" for BBC World lists them from the 33 million in Europe to the 200,000 in Africa. The United States is notable by its absence. It would seem that last year BBC World did not have a single subscriber there. Only now, with the launch of the BBC America channel, is the BBC getting distribution in the US.

In contrast, ITN World News is being transmitted by public TV stations in 19 American cities. It shows that it is possible to pursue a global strategy on a more modest financial scale than the BBC.

The key is choosing the right partner in the US, where it remains difficult to get cable distribution. ITN bypassed cable for terrestrial television via the public television networks and the new technology of digital direct-to-home satellite.

In Europe, where BBC World has good growth, it is still behind ITN's Euronews in distribution and in viewing. The BBC tried to have it both ways in Europe. It attempted to establish cable distribution in markets such as Germany, where you pay the cable operator, and relied on an outside partner, such as Pearson, to fund them. But it didn't get away with it.

Euronews — a pan-European channel with five different languages which offers news and information about Europe and the world — is a lower risk and lower loss strategy. It has better cable and satellite distribution in Europe than BBC World. It also gets distribution through ITN's partners, which gives it higher viewing figures than CNN in many countries.

Online is another area where ITN can offer a perspective on the BBC's strategy. BBC News reports 12 million page impressions in June. The ITN figure was 10 million on a lower cost base. Although the Director-General reports that a "major public consultation is under way to ensure that the BBC responds to the aspirations of licence-payers", the Governors find no room for any mention of online.

Not surprisingly, Sir Christopher Bland and Sir John Birt have not come up with an answer to ITN's and ITV's proposal that an outside body conduct a value for licence-payers review.

Stewart Purvis is Chief Executive of ITN

# media times

## Decision stuns the admen

The Guinness court case has exposed the wider issues of plagiarism, says Stefano Hatfield

The ad industry is reeling from the High Court decision on the three-year Guinness plagiarism dispute, where the judge dismissed allegations of copyright infringement brought by the commercials director, Mehdi Norowzian, against Guinness and its one-time Irish ad agency, Arks.

The industry believed that the famous Guinness ad, "Anticipation" — in which a man dances maniacally to music while waiting for his pint to settle — was lifted from Norowzian's student test film *Joy*, in which a man dances maniacally in front of the camera.

None can have been more shocked than Norowzian, who could have settled out of court. He must now decide whether to appeal.

Those who have seen both films found the decision difficult to comprehend, especially as the similarities between the films were established in court, and the reasons for such similarities were not in dispute.

Norowzian sent his show-reel containing *Joy* to Arks in 1993. A year later an art director at the agency presented Guinness with an idea for a commercial that showed a man dancing frantically while waiting for his pint to settle. He included a copy of it in his presentation.

Guinness liked it and Norowzian was asked to direct the commercial. He declined on the grounds that he had already done it once and there would be no creative challenge for him.

Arks was then warned to "stay well away from *Joy*".

The agency asked another director to film the ad "with an atmosphere broadly similar to that portrayed in *Joy*", suggesting that he employ the same jump-cutting editing techniques.

The actor in the ad, Joe McKinney, testified that he had been instructed by Arks to "imitate, emulate and expand upon *Joy*".



No small beer: a scene from the Guinness advertisement "Anticipation", left, and the original film *Joy*, from which it was claimed to be plagiarised

"There was no doubt in my mind that *Joy* was central to this advertisement," he told the court.

However, Mr Justice Rafter, while conceding that *Joy* had been a point of reference for the ad, decided that the ad was not a copy. Even if he had thought otherwise, he would have dismissed the case on the ground that *Joy* was not a dramatic work. This crucial interpretation of the

Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 decided the case. It is an interpretation that has worried many directors.

The judge concluded: "A film can be a recording of a dramatic work, though I do not think that a film can itself be a dramatic work." Mr Justice Rafter's interpretation was that a film can be protected only from mechanical copying or "as a recording of a dramatic work". Is the dance in

*Joy* a dramatic work? The judge chose to concentrate on the content of the film rather than the style, crucially placing the emphasis on the act that was filmed and not the artistry involved in the filming.

"*Joy*, unlike some films, is not a recording of a dramatic work," the judge said. "Because, as a result of the drastic editing process adopted by Mr Norowzian, it was not a recording of anything that was, or

could be, performed or danced by anyone."

Mr Justice Rafter concluded that to protect the originality of the finished film, as opposed to any dramatic work recorded by Norowzian's film, would require an extension of the provisions of the 1988 Act.

However, he did concede that the techniques used in production and post-production are left in what he termed wonder-

fully as a "serious lacuna" in the law. And it is this gap that Norowzian's solicitor, Nick Maland, of Britta & Co, believes offers grounds for appeal: "We believe dramatic work should be given an interpretation, first which takes account of the developments of the 20th century in relation to film techniques and, secondly, offers protection for the artistic skill and labour of film directors — as it already does for musicians, artists and writers."

It is hard to overstate the significance of this case in the ad industry — one which is built on "borrowing", "homage", "pastiche" and all manner of other euphemisms for stealing. On one level, agencies will be delighted because it weighs the balance of power in their favour over directors. However, their position in relation to offering ideas on spec to clients will have been further weakened.

The issues are not as cut and dried as they first appear. If a manic dance could be protected, for example, what about a fox trot or waltz? Should you be able to protect a walk? A handshake? A kiss? What's the significance of the "lacuna"? Can a film of a man swimming be protected, but a man swimming in super slow-mo (a feat achieved only through technology) not be protected?

The decision will be pored over by media lawyers, agencies and production companies, but it appears that, of itself, it cannot answer vital questions concerning a director's rights over his own creation. That "lacuna" is the key. The ruling appears to throw up as many questions as it answers. But the biggest question is whether Norowzian, who has gone on to direct films for Adidas, One 2 One and Orange, has the stomach, energy and financial resources to carry on the legal battle.

Stefano Hatfield is Editor of Campaign

## Competition is hotting up in the staid world of the stock market

THIS month's announcement of an alliance between the London Stock Exchange and Deutsche Borse, its Frankfurt arch-rival, is the latest indication of growing competition in the traditionally staid world of the stock market, to the extent that national exchanges are making their own investments — in advertising.

Just last month the LSE launched its first national newspaper campaign. But it was Nasdaq, the innovative American stock exchange, that led the way with a high-profile TV and press campaign that has been running in Britain since late last year.

### Meg Carter on Nasdaq's push for consumer awareness

Nasdaq's advertising, handled here by the London agency Euro RSCG Wnek Gosper, is part of a drive to raise awareness of the American market in Britain, says Maggie Kelly, Nasdaq International vice-president of international marketing. "We've been advertising in the US for several years and were the first stock market to invest in TV advertising," she adds.

Nasdaq is not in competition with Europe's national stock markets, she says, but it believes it is essential to raise its profile outside America. Nasdaq reportedly plans to develop a European electronic stock market with Deutsche Borse. Whether it does or not, a strong international profile will help to secure future success in recruiting new companies and building existing clients' loyalty.

So far, Nasdaq's UK advertising campaign has comprised four TV executions, each featuring a high-tech Nasdaq-listed business — Microsoft, Intel, Cisco and Amgen. Euro RSCG has worked closely with Nasdaq's American agency, Messner Vetere Berger McNamara Schmetterer, in developing the ads, which direct viewers to Nasdaq listings now carried in the *Financial Times*. Each ad has the headline: "Nasdaq — the stock market for the next 100 years."

Exchange have been prompted into thinking about advertising as a result. Nasdaq now intends to stage live, awareness-raising events. Last month saw the first in a series of live presentations for stockbrokers designed to introduce Nasdaq-listed businesses. A two-day conference presenting a selection of larger Nasdaq-listed companies to UK fund managers was staged in London this month.

"We're not aware of any other stock market taking such an active approach to promoting itself," Kelly claims. Once responses to its UK activities so far have been assessed, Nasdaq's advertising and marketing strategy is likely to be rolled out in the rest of Europe. "As stock markets increase awareness of Nasdaq among investors and potential investors, we all increase awareness of investment as a concept," she adds. "The London stock market's recent campaign to get people to be more share-aware complements our own, as ours does theirs."

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All dressed up with nowhere to go: the villagers of Ireby had their moment of fame cut short, despite attracting four million TV viewers. A conflict of interest was blamed after it was discovered a producer owned a pub in the series

# Why the BBC had to bar village TV show

Billed by the BBC as an everyday story of real-life country folk, *Cumbrian Tales* proved an instant success with almost four million people tuning in for the first of six programmes last week. But two nights ago this rural idyll set in the village of Ireby was off the air for good, leaving the viewers confused, the corporation embarrassed and the series producer feeling "poleaxed".

The reason, explained BBC bosses, was because the independent producer owned one of the businesses featured in the documentary. A potential conflict of interest was blamed for the last-minute withdrawal of the programme after the BBC discovered that Patrick McCreanor had a commercial interest — believed to be in the pub, Paddy's Bar.

Yesterday an aggrieved Mr McCreanor suggested that he might have been the victim of a whispering campaign. He mused glumly on the strong possibility that a rival may have resented the alleged prominence given to the bar.

Perhaps he need not look too far — just as far as Ireby's other public house, The Sun, where the landlord, Roland Medlicott, was worried about the series even before it went on TV.

"You would have thought that there was only one pub in Ireby going by that programme," he claims. "They never filmed in here or even included a shot of us. Paddy staged loads of events at his place which he then filmed. He had fancy dress nights, which made for good pictures."

*Cumbrian Tales* took 2½ years to make. With each episode costing £60,000, the decision to pull the series will cost the corporation more than £300,000. The

Calling time on a fly-on-the-wall series about country folk has ruffled feathers — and not just in the village. Bill Frost reports

acrimonious debate is in sharp contrast to the vision of rustic tranquillity painted before the launch of *Cumbrian Tales*.

"I wanted to give an open, honest and objective picture of the community," says Mr McCreanor. "It was obvious to me that here was the perfect venue, right on my own doorstep, for me to give an insight into what the countryside is about. I have lived in Ireby for 20 years, almost to the day, and I knew these people were my friends, that I ate at their tables, drank with them in the local."

Meanwhile, the corporation has accepted responsibility for the mix-up and apologised to disappointed villagers for withdrawing the series.

A statement says: "We have no reason to doubt the integrity of the producer, a respected documentary maker, or the independent production company, but the BBC now recognises there is a potential conflict of interest as the producer has owned commercial property featured in the series."

"The BBC did not recognise the potential conflict from the outset when the project was commissioned and we apolo-

gise to the production company, to the viewers and the people of Ireby."

The corporation said its producers' guidelines made it clear there must not appear to be any threat to the editorial impartiality of programmes through the outside activities of programme-makers.

"The BBC has a duty to be clear with its audiences who must be sure that the products or services featured in BBC programmes have been selected for editorial and not promotional reasons," the statement says.

Mr McCreanor put his bar up for sale last March and it was sold earlier this month for £125,000. However, the pub's prominence in a series produced by the then-owner of the building is strictly against BBC guidelines.

One source in Ireby, who refuses to be named, claimed yesterday that the whole village was "very disappointed" that the series had been axed. "The first episode was very enjoyable, we all thought so. Ireby would have benefited from the series. Lots of tourists would have come here. There is no doubt in my mind that there will be a lot of bitterness over this. Mr McCreanor is popular here and we cannot see why his involvement with the pub should have caused all this trouble."

Mr McCreanor was refusing to answer most telephone calls from the media yesterday, except with a brusque "he's not here". However, he told *The Times* that he was shocked and disappointed that the BBC had pulled *Cumbrian Tales*.

"We desperately hope that this is not the end of the series. But any decision on the remaining programmes lies with the BBC. I just feel poleaxed by this and I am sure the rest of the village feels exactly the same way too."

EIGHT YEARS OF NEWSPAPER CHANGE				
SUNDAY MARKETS				
TITLE	Jan 91 - Jan 92	Jan 98 - Jan 99	Actual Change	% Change
Express on Sunday	1,622,846	1,033,241	-589,605	-36.3
Independent on Sunday	385,045	255,664	-129,381	-33.6
Mail on Sunday	1,940,401	2,192,294	251,893	13.0
News of the World	4,807,646	4,165,320	-642,326	-13.4
Observer	579,045	403,300	-175,745	-30.4
Sunday Mirror	2,805,904	1,970,869	-835,035	-29.8
Sunday People	2,338,014	1,716,906	-621,108	-26.6
Sunday Sport	371,287	252,791	-118,496	-31.9
Sunday Telegraph	576,438	833,878	257,440	44.7
Sunday Times	1,376,616	1,320,265	-143,849	-12.2
<b>Market total</b>	<b>16,808,042</b>	<b>14,144,528</b>	<b>-2,663,514</b>	<b>-15.8</b>

DAILY MARKETS				
TITLE	Jan 91 - Jan 92	Jan 98 - Jan 99	Actual Change	% Change
Daily Mail	1,719,619	2,295,761	576,142	33.5
Daily Star	878,891	668,192	-210,699	-24.0
Daily Telegraph	1,074,580	1,073,822	-758	-0.1
Express	1,564,598	1,168,598	-396,000	-25.3
Financial Times	288,767	353,928	65,161	22.6
Guardian	431,423	402,842	-28,581	-6.6
Independent	394,438	220,534	-173,904	-44.1
Mirror	2,956,627	2,320,670	-635,957	-21.5
Sun	3,692,788	3,713,476	20,688	0.6
Times	406,123	787,788	381,665	94.0
<b>Market total</b>	<b>13,408,059</b>	<b>13,905,841</b>	<b>497,782</b>	<b>3.7</b>

CLAIMS abound that the national newspaper market is in decline and that online newspapers are rapidly gaining readers.

Are we seeing the first signs of electronic news starting to chip away at the traditional versions?

Certainly, the most recent ABC figures indicate that virtually all national newspapers have shown either little growth or, in many cases, a steady decline.

However, the longer-term picture shows heavy casualties among the Sunday titles but little change in the total daily market.

We have taken a look at figures from 1991 (the first full year of the *Independent on Sunday*) and up to the most recent six-monthly sales announced a week ago.

In this eight-year period, the Sundays had almost two-and-a-half million copies wiped off their collective circulations. All but *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Mail on Sunday* showed substantial losses. *The Independent on Sunday* lost a third of its circulation in the period re-

viewed, the *News of the World* and the *Sunday People* both lost sales of more than 600,000 copies in the same period, and the *Sunday Mirror's* circulation fell from 2.8 million to just under 2 million.

In the daily market *The Mirror* (down 636,000 copies since January 1991) and *The Independent* (44 per cent down) suffered badly, while the circulation of *The Times* — on the back of high-profile price-cutting — is up by 94 per cent. However, even allowing for these rather dramatic fluctuations, total sales of national dailies have remained remarkably solid in the past 8 years, dropping only 3 per cent in all to a current figure of just more than 13 million copies.

Now anticipated is (apparently) a redesign of the *Independent on Sunday*, new supplements from *The Mirror*, and a reported desire to move upmarket from the *Daily Star*.

Oddly, the only paper to show significant growth recently is the *Financial Times*, which has undergone fewer changes than any.

# Top of the Big Apple tree

Tina Brown has moved to new pastures and some say that her going marks the end of all that was bright and British on the New York magazine scene.

Brown is not the only Briton to have made an impact on the New York media. Who could have missed the dynamic Anna Wintour at *Vogue*, Liz Tilberis at *Harpers Bazaar*, and Glenda Bailey at *Marie Claire*, where she is Editor-in-Chief of all 26 worldwide editions. And American publishers still look across the Atlantic when they are after something special.

The latest British invasion is in 'lads' magazines — that mix of humour and sophistication that appeals equally to building workers and city slickers. After a year, *Maxim* is selling 300,000 a month and banging on the door of established titles like *GQ* and *Esquire*.

Now comes *Gear*, with former *Daily Mirror* and *Express* executive Jack Wright as Editor-in-Chief and Aaron Hicklin, from the features editor's chair at *Scotland on Sunday*, as his deputy. The magazine, initially to be published every two months, launches on August 4 with £3 million behind it (and more if necessary), a first print run of 500,000 and a guaranteed sale of 250,000.

The man behind *Gear* is Bob Guccione Jr, the 43-year-old son of the founder of the *Penthouse* empire, although he has not spoken to his father for 12 years. He made a personal profit of £11 million last year when he sold the music magazine *Spin*. American-born but educated in Britain, he has, his admirers say, a rare mix of talents as both a brilliant businessman and a journalist.

The younger Guccione went looking for Britons to run his latest brainchild because, he says, he wants their mix of intelligence, sophistication and humour. "No other nation

New York magazine publishers are continuing to seek out British editors. Barry Wigmore reports



Wright, Editor of *Gear*, right, with Hicklin, his assistant

can match Britain for that," he says. This is a view shared by Michele Lavery, *Baillet's* deputy at *Marie Claire*, where the top three positions are held by Britons (the third is Jenny Barnett, the executive editor).

"We bring the advantage of the outsider; a way of seeing things freshly," she says. "When it comes down to it, this business is all about ideas. But we need American and Canadian writers; we just don't have the depth of knowledge about the culture that they have."

While British editors are still strong in America, some commentators believe they have a limited shelf-life, since magazines face increasing competition from the Internet, where there is a huge growth in on-line magazines. Howard Kurtz, media columnist for *The Washington Post*, says: "Almost every US magazine is

engaged in a desperate search to find something to help it stand out from the crowd. British editors fitted that bill for a while, but now they have become part of the culture, so they seem less exciting."

Gerry Fielder, the Wall Street media analyst, says: "Magazines are losing that glossy-paper advantage that once dominated. The Internet magazines still have an enormous way to go, but you only have to look at the increases in 'new media' advertising sales to see which way things are going. When the next generation, used to reading everything on-screen, comes through, no editor — from Britain or anywhere else in the world — will have the answer to the Net."

Virtually every Briton working in America believes there is a complacency in the country's magazines because they

sell mainly on subscription and don't have to fight for market share at newsstands. "We [Britons] are trained to sell on newsstands. The front cover is incredibly important," says Lavery. "In Britain you are constantly thinking, 'How can I make mine better than the next person's?'"

That counts in America too, but not everyone in the industry over here realises it. If newsstand sales are up, that magazine has a buzz about it. If they are slow, or dipping, it's the first sign of a publication losing it."

This was something that Wright, who moved to New York in January, noticed immediately. "British journalism is far more competitive, and I think that's why US publishers like British editors," he says. "Fleet Street is still the best training ground in the world. Look at the crossover you get now between tabloid and broadsheet papers. It has benefited both. Then look at *The New York Times*, which is one of the world's most over-rated newspapers. I'd kill for the resources they have, but they make it bland and awful and they think they are wonderful... With a few notable exceptions, American journalism is dull and deferential. To succeed, a publication has to have attitude, and that means a strong, opinionated editor. The best magazines have that here, and the best newspapers have it in Britain."

Wright is pleased with the mix in the first issue of *Gear*. It includes a cover story on Australian model-actress Peta Wilson from the television series *La Femme Nikita*. It's a coup because she is notorious as an actress who never gives interviews. There is also an editorial by Guccione's parish priest on sex and God.

It remains to be seen if the mix of Wright and Guccione will generate the "attitude" he admires.

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THE TIMES  
**EDUCATION**

# Do long holidays break the learning curve?

David Tytler argues that children lose valuable skills when school's out for summer

As children begin the long summer holiday, they will not be thinking about learning. But those two months off can set back their progress by as much as a month, and possibly three, say a group of American academics.

The researchers, from the universities of Missouri and Tennessee State, found that the summer break affected mathematics more than reading but was most detrimental when it came to spelling and solving mathematical problems.

There are two possible solutions; one is to extend the school year, the other is to introduce all-year-round out-of-school activities using school facilities. The Government seems to favour the latter. At the same time, however, it is awaiting the outcome of research into the five-term year.

Education ministers are so concerned by what has become known as learning loss that £200 million from the National Lottery is to be used to provide out-of-school activities in 8,000 primary and secondary schools in the autumn term. Caroline Sharp, of the National Foundation of Educational Research, has been asked by the Department for Education and Em-

ployment to investigate the effectiveness of a range of out-of-school activities, such as homework clubs, arts and sports groups, and about 50 pilot projects are taking place this summer.

Miss Sharp says: "It seems that the most effective arrangements are those linked directly with schools. Children go backwards during the summer holiday if their minds are not exercised."

"Exercising the brain is a bit like exercising our muscles to keep fit. You have to keep doing it. It also appears that summer loss has a greater effect on children from less affluent backgrounds, perhaps because they do not have access to books at home or do not visit museums, libraries or other places of interest."

According to the American research, students from all backgrounds lost mathematical skills to about the same extent, but there was a big difference in reading and language. In reading and language, lower-income students showed a markedly greater loss than those from more affluent backgrounds, creating a gap of up to three months.

The long summer break can also have a greater effect on children with special educational needs. In



Too much mucking about: American researchers say that the summer holidays can set children back by months — particularly in their spelling and mathematical abilities

addition, children who speak a language at home other than English may find their English skills falling significantly.

Literacy summer schools began in Britain last year, numeracy schools will start next year. The American research suggests that the best results in countering summer loss can be delivered if the programmes focus on mathematics for all children and on reading for those from low-income families.

The Government had hoped that the 25 education action zones to be introduced in the next academic year and which will be run by schools, involving local education authorities, business and parents, would lead to innovations aimed at

raising standards. Five start in September and 20 in January, with about 25 schools in each. So far, there have been no specific proposals for changes to the school year or day, but they do contain proposals for a number of out-of-school hours schemes.

Typical of the projects envisaged are a partnership in Tower Hamlets, East London, between Morpeth School and the Bankers' Trust to run a study centre, occasional study weekends and a book box in classrooms, and in Morland Primary School, Ipswich, which has run a family literacy scheme for several years.

The Government will, however, come under pressure to consider

changes to the school year. Professor Brent Davies, of the University of Lincoln, has carried out an investigation into four of the country's 15 city technology colleges which operate five eight-week terms with two-week breaks and a four-week holiday between July and August. He says: "Our research shows that two thirds of pupils involved in the five-term year believe that it helps them to concentrate better and get better test results. Teachers also believe that concentration is better in term time and that students achieve more, while 60 per cent of the parents we spoke to believe that their children remember things better from one term to the next, and achieve higher learning outcomes."

He believes that out-of-school hours activities have to work alongside changes in the school calendar. "Summer courses can avoid learning loss," he says, "but a more rational pattern to the school year would help to avoid it. We have to move away from the school day to the learning day, making good use of all the time available to us. After all, children spend only 13 per cent of the year in school."

"You cannot achieve improvements if you concentrate only on what happens in school. But if you did change the school year, you would obviate the lunacy of having to work up to 18 weeks in the autumn term. Most people, including pupils and teachers, are shattered

by the end, because of far too much stress on both teachers and pupils." Summer schools themselves do not provide the entire answer to learning loss. Despite dramatic short-term gains during the three-week literacy courses at 50 schools last year, pupils' reading skills have declined by the same amount between May and September, whether they attended a summer school or not.

Whatever the solutions, it is unlikely that parents or teachers can continue to accept the now well-established theory of summer loss. If pupils go back a month after the summer break, that means a third of the first term back is spent in catching up. That cannot be right.

# Equality for children

Spending on under-fives is likely to rise, which is a welcome initiative, if not a totally convincing one. Now that nursery education has been made available to all four-year-olds it is to be extended to 60 per cent of three-year-olds by 2002.

In deprived areas, a £540 million cross-departmental programme, Sure Start, for children from birth to three will be set up to "work with parents to promote the physical, intellectual and social development of pre-school children, particularly those who are disadvantaged, to ensure they are ready to learn when they get to school".

Sure Start has its origins in a series of seminars, organised by the Treasury, which set out to examine the problem of social exclusion, and in particular how "dysfunctional families" might be tackled. It is based on the premise that children need the right kind of stimulus when their brain growth is at its maximum. This is what some have cynically called the inoculation theory of learning — a dose of the right medicine in infancy will mean that more costly remedial treatment will not be necessary later. If only it were that easy.

Paradoxically, American intervention programmes such as Head-Start, from which so much evidence is drawn to substantiate early intervention, take place in the country with the world's highest incarceration rate. In Britain, random, controlled trials have just begun to investigate the impact of childcare and home visiting on the health and wellbeing of families.

Sure Start was intended to be a model of policymaking.

Helen Penn believes that Sure Start is bound to have teething problems



Clinton's successful Head-Start scheme was a model

But part of the problem in addressing social exclusion, apart from the dubious nature of the evidence on young children, has always been the turf wars between government departments.

One of the sticking points is the narrow definition of nursery-education. More than 80

per cent of four-year-olds receive their nursery education in primary school, in reception classes or "early years units", taught by subject-based teachers. Nursery education in schools is cheap to provide, but increasingly we have come to see young children as learning machines so be stuffed full

of instruction as early as possible for a regulated period in the day. In fact, nursery education has long assumed many shapes and forms. For most of the century, free-standing nursery schools, run by trained nursery teachers, were regarded as the best way to deliver nursery education and care together. This is a model used in much of Europe.

The recent consultation document, *Meeting the Child Care Challenge*, assumed that this form of nursery education was sacrosanct. The Welfare to Work programme — which offers childcare subsidies to low-income working parents — also avoids mentioning the divide between nursery education and childcare, and assumes that childcare will be provided mainly in the private market.

This leaves unanswered the question of how, where and when the young children of working parents will obtain their nursery education entitlement. Similarly, the grand claim to provide nursery education for three-year-olds begs the question of childcare. Who will look after children when they are not at school? How will they get there? Sure Start seems to add to this confusion. It will co-ordinate initiatives but only for 5 per cent of "deprived" children under-three. Then, presumably, having been suitably trained, alongside their disadvantaged parents, they can be passed on to school for the next batch of childcare and education arrangements.

Certainly, children look like pawns in government policymaking, but at least their interests are being considered. We should be grateful that they now figure.

## All hands up for hands-on lessons

FACED with pupils obsessed with television and computer games, teachers are adapting to increasingly practical tactics to help to improve their children's attention span and to encourage their life skills.

Teachers at Lyndhurst Junior School in Portsmouth hit on a version of the Japanese toy pet, Tamagotchi. The success of giving 10 and 11-year-olds the re-

sponsibility of caring for "egg-babies" (hard-boiled eggs) 24 hours a day, which they named and painted with faces, was immense. Irene Swan, the teacher, says: "They took it very seriously. Like secondary school pupils who use a bag of flour instead, they learn that this is easy, compared with caring for a baby."

Learning commitment is vital to child development.

"If you can get children personally engaged like this, it's a winner," says Chris Watkins, Head of Assessment Guidance and Effective Learning at the Institute of Education. "It's not enough to get their attention. The experience alone doesn't work unless the children are encouraged to talk about it afterwards. Then the experience is wonderful."

SARAH HARTLEY

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01 D Hill	23 612	12 A Wurz	126 977
02 M Schumacher	158 1199	13 R Schumacher	122 551
03 D Coulthard	50 954	14 J Trulli	40 490
04 G Fisichella	120 901	15 J Herbert	35 690
05 J Villeneuve	110 1023	16 M Salo	31 485
06 O Panis	20 674	17 P Diniz	50 473
07 H-H Frenzen	26 773	18 J Verstappen	40 574
08 E Irvine	128 1112	19 T Takagi	115 589
09 M Hakkinen	140 1150	20 R Rosset	26 384
10 J Alesi	62 836	21 S Nakano	125 726
11 R Barrichello	40 613	22 E Tuero	26 435

\* Jos Verstappen replaces Jan Magnussen in the Stewart-Ford team from the French Grand Prix. Rule 2 applies.

CONSTRUCTORS			
GROUP C		GROUP D	
23 Williams	10 135	29 Sauber	-20 42
24 Ferrari	30 215	30 Arrows	-20 47
25 Benetton	23 134	31 Stewart	-20 5
26 McLaren	15 174	32 Tyrrell	8 -23
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CHANGING TIMES

RACING: TALL REPUTATION OF CECIL-TRAINED ZAFONIC COLT PUT TO THE TEST AT ASCOT TODAY

Killer Instinct to show rivals no mercy

By Richard Evans Racing Correspondent

THEIR the Newmarket pigeons are slower than normal this summer, or Killer Instinct is something rather special. The Henry Cecil-trained Zafonic colt is already favourite for next year's 2,000 Guineas, purely on the quality of



Fairy Queen, right, gets the better of Winece in a thrilling finish to the Milkars Star Stakes at Sandown Park yesterday

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

his homework, and he will be the centre of attention at Ascot today when making a much-awaited debut. King of Kings' success in this year's colts' classic at Newmarket, almost a year after he was installed as market leader for the race, showed that talking horses can prevail. Only four rivals line up against the Thoroughbred Corporation-owned two-year-old in the EBF Maiden Stakes (4.25), but he should face a

stern challenge. Compton Admiral was an unlucky second to Rhapsody in the Chesham Stakes at Royal Ascot and two other debutants are well regarded. The Sir Michael Stoute-trained Iscan has shown up well at home while, earlier in the season, John Dunlop highlighted the claims of Raaqi, a first foal of

Mehnaaf, an Irish 1,000 Guineas winner, by Nashwan. Killer Instinct has been beating some of Cecil's better two-year-olds at home, including Enrique, and on Tuesday he sauntered clear of the three-year-old Wayne Lukas. The race is best watched — and the same sentiment applies to the

opening Marchpole Maiden Stakes (2.15), the first of four races covered by the BBC, which has attracted six unraced juveniles. The betting ring is likely to provide the best clue for punters but, on breeding, Rumba, a Dayjry filly out of Risma, makes most appeal. The John Guest Brown Jack

Handicap looks wide open. Princess Topaz bounced back to form on her favoured fast ground at Newmarket and should again have the beating of Silently and Olivo, despite a 3lb penalty. At Sandown, Jawah showed a glimpse of the form which saw him win twice last season. Sandbagged again gained

his first win of the campaign when stepped up to two miles at Caterick. With Michael Kinane taking over from an apprentice, the Mick Easterby-trained runner will be fancied to follow up. However, it could be worth taking a risk with Murchan Tyne. She beat Phantom Waters over a mile and a half at Leicester and was probably unsuited subsequently by Chester's tight track and a moderate pace at Haydock. Her breeding suggests she should appreciate a return to two miles and the overall level of her form gives Murchan Tyne a decent chance.

Blessingindisguise won the City Index Handicap (3.15) 12 months ago, but is still higher now and may find life tougher despite a good draw. Prince Deme steps back to the minimum trip after winning twice over six furlongs. Willow Dale made an encouraging reappearance at Salisbury, but Ellens Lad gets the nod after winning a fast-run handicap at Newmarket last time.

The handicap won by Himan at Newmarket's July meeting was above average and, although seventh-placed Mr Cabill did not trouble the leaders, he should appreciate the easier opposition in the October Club Admiral Nurses Charity Handicap (3.50).

Table with columns for race names and jockeys. Includes THUNDERER, 2.15 Intezza, 2.45 General Assembly, 3.15 Blessingindisguise, 3.15 ELLENS LAD, 4.25 KILLER INSTINCT (nap), 5.00 Genoa.

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WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER: 1.25 Yeoman Oliver, 1.55 Risky Valentine, 2.25 Empress of the Coast, 2.55 Applaudment, 3.20 Parigout, 4.00 Melody Blues, 4.35 Gold Park, 5.10 Melark.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

1.25 CATHERINE BATES 60TH BIRTHDAY CLAIMING STAKES (Div 1; £1,995; 1m 100yd) (11 runners)

- 1 004 SALTATION (G) 5/11 R Hollands 5-9-13 ... M Sweeney 11
2 216 TILLY MARY (F) 12/1 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... M Sweeney 11
3 232 YEOMAN OLIVER (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11

1.55 RED VARDY NURSERY HANDICAP (2-7-Y-O; £2,853; 6f) (11)

- 1 130 STONEY SARRAHNS (M) 6/11 R Hollands 5-9-13 ... M Sweeney 11
2 116 HEATHWAYS JAMES (M) 18/1 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... R Cochrane 11
3 216 MOUNT OCHREO (M) 2/5 J Berry 10-10 ... C Southall 7

2.25 CATHERINE BATES 60TH BIRTHDAY CLAIMING STAKES (Div 1; £1,995; 1m 100yd) (10)

- 1 604 MASTERS STROKE (M) 3/11 R Hollands 5-9-13 ... M Sweeney 11
2 503 RHYME (M) 1/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11
3 253 MOUNT OCHREO (M) 2/5 J Berry 10-10 ... C Southall 7

2.55 CAROLS OF WOLVERHAMPTON HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £2,801; 1m 117yd) (10)

- 1 430 GOLF MACHINES (F) 1/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11
2 440 ASPEN DANCER (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11
3 293 BRONCO ADAM (M) 18/1 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... R Cochrane 11

3.25 CO BRAMALL WEATHERBYS DASH PREPARATION CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O; £5,584; 6f) (4)

- 1 344 BANISHING BREEZE (M) K Barry 8-11 ... M Lee 5-10-10
2 111 PENNINGTON (M) 11/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11
3 251 SPYET WELLS (M) 10/11 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... R Cochrane 11

4.00 HAYS ACCOUNTANCY PERSONNEL FILLES SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O; £1,882; 7f) (11)

- 1 145 OREY THE COUNTER (M) 1/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11
2 513 PATROY 22 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11
3 602 BERTIE (M) 1/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Cochrane 11

WOLVERHAMPTON

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THUNDERER

6.10 SAINT ALBERT, 6.40 PATRON SAINT, 7.10 ONE SO WUNDERFUL, 7.40 STARTS SONG, 8.10 TRINKER OSMASTON (nap), 8.40 TARASHAW.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.10 MISSIONS TO SEAMAN AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (£2,500; 1m 412yd) (14 runners)

- 1 682 WESTMINSTER (M) 11/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 398 PRAEDICUS (M) 11/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 404 RICHMOND (M) 11/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

6.40 RESAL MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O; £3,589; 6f 10yd) (14)

- 1 53 PATRON SAINT (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9
2 255 THE HEMA 25 (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9
3 400 PRICE OF PASSION (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

7.10 FAWLEY STUD GOLDEN DAFFODIL STAKES (LISTED RACE) (£11,208; 1m 20f 30yd) (13)

- 1 915 ASPEN DANCER (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9
2 210 PULINA (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 411 TARDIS (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

7.40 BRISTOL PORT COMPANY HANDICAP (£3,022; 7f 10yd) (20)

- 1 430 WITWITTY (M) 18/1 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 600 NEVER GOLD ROCKET (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9
3 600 SILVER LININGS (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9

8.10 HONDA HANDICAP (£2,514; 5f 10yd) (13)

- 1 440 COLUMBIAN (M) 11/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 600 NEVER GOLD ROCKET (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9
3 600 SILVER LININGS (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9

8.40 CORY TOWAGE HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £3,685; 1m 49yd) (3)

- 1 611 TARBHAM 22 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 51 STRAWN 100 (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 611 TARBHAM 22 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

THUNDERER

12.05 UP THE CLARETS, 2.35 WAJPOI, 3.05 CRACKLE, 3.40 AIR ALLIANCE, 4.10 ON THE MORNING, 4.45 BENEZO, 5.20 FOREST ROBIN.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.05 HUTTON WANDELSLEY SELLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £2,565; 1m) (18 runners)

- 1 139 600 JAVI 10 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 320 MARRINA 15 (M) 8/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... R Highley 9
3 402 THE GORILLAS (F) 1/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

2.35 ADAM TOMLINSON AFTERNOON SHOW MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O; £3,775; 7f) (9)

- 1 62 CLIFTON WOOD 53 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 62 FREEDOM QUEST 33 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 62 WALTON 27 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

3.05 LEWIS GEPPEL MEMORIAL CHALLENGE CUP CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O; £4,941; 7f) (4)

- 1 111 HOLLY GOES 48 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 424 PERU 12 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 21 CRACKLE (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

3.40 PETER BELL MEMORIAL HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £4,161; 1m 4f) (4)

- 1 62 AMI ATTACHE 26 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 228 FANTASY NIGHT 35 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 62 PEARA 11 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

4.10 EBF BBC RADIO YORK MAIDEN FILLES STAKES (2-Y-O; £3,647; 6f) (21)

- 1 056 BEE PEARL (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 584 NICKIE 20 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 111 TOLL MILLERS 29 (M) 9/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11

4.45 DUNNINGTON HANDICAP (£4,570; 6f) (15)

- 1 100 DAHME 7 (M) 2/11 M Lee 5-10-10 ... M Jackson 11
2 142 NIKAN SPY (M) 18/1 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... M Jackson 11
3 142 NIKAN SPY (M) 18/1 G Bailey 4-8-10 ... M Jackson 11

ASCOT RACING: TALL REPUTATION OF CECIL-TRAINED ZAFONIC COLT PUT TO THE TEST AT ASCOT TODAY

THUNDERER 3.50 Sick As A Parrot, 4.25 Raqi, 5.00 Genoa. Timekeeper's top rating: 3.15 ELLENS LAD. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.50 Peridot. 4.25 KILLER INSTINCT (nap), 5.00 There Be Demons.

Table with columns for race names and jockeys. Includes THUNDERER, 2.15 Intezza, 2.45 General Assembly, 3.15 Blessingindisguise, 3.15 ELLENS LAD, 4.25 KILLER INSTINCT (nap), 5.00 Genoa.

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ATHLETICS

Modahl hopes to settle future on and off track

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE last time Diane Modahl had anything to do with the Commonwealth Games, it led to a four-year suspension from her sport...



Modahl: three targets

It would be foolish, he said, to think only of the Commonwealth Games and, for that reason, Diane has set three targets: a Commonwealth medal, a place in the European final and a personal best time...



Joyner-Kersey lands in the long jump pit during the last heptathlon of her career

Johnson heads record run

By DAVID POWELL

SOMETHING old, something new, something borrowed, something blue. That was the fourth day of the Goodwill Games in New York...

RUGBY LEAGUE

Veivers attempts to boost morale

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

PLAYER unrest has followed the decision by Huddersfield Giants to relieve Garry Schofield of his duties as coach...

SPORT IN BRIEF

Morgan hurt in motorway accident

SNOKER: Darren Morgan, the former world and United Kingdom championship semi-finalist...

BILLIARDS: Clive Everton, the journalist and senior BBC snooker commentator...

SHOOTING: One of Bisley's leading accolades - the right to have the decoration "GC" after her name...

CYCLING: A week after winning Britain's first junior world championship pursuit title...

LACROSSE: The United States, the defending champions, meet Canada in the final of the men's world championships...

RUGBY LEAGUE: Salford Reds yesterday signed Jody Hayes, 22, the St Helens wing, on loan.

EQUESTRIANISM: LARGE FIELD WILL SAMPLE INTERESTING TWISTS ON NEW COURSE

Record entry a trial for Phillips

By JENNY MACARTHUR

BLYTH TAIT, the New Zealander who is the Olympic three-day eventing champion, heads a record entry for the Doubleprint British horse trials championships...

FOR THE RECORD

Table with sports results under categories: FOOTBALL, BASEBALL, CRICKET, GOLF, TENNIS, SQUASH, LACROSSE, SPEEDWAY, RUGBY LEAGUE, SNOKER, BILLIARDS, SHOOTING, CYCLING.

NEWMARKET

Table of horse racing results for Newmarket, including races like 7.50 TRAVIS PERIODS HANDICAP, 8.20 ANTEE VIRKON NURSERY HANDICAP, 8.50 HUNDON MAIDEN STAKES, 6.50 SNOWDONS MARQUEES NOVICE STAKES, 7.20 BAILEYS IRISH CREAM LIQUEUR CONDITIONS STAKES.

NOTTINGHAM

Table of horse racing results for Nottingham, including races like 6.30 ROLLINGER CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP, 7.00 ENF NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL SERVICES MAIDEN STAKES, 7.30 CARL LAGER CLASSIFIED STAKES.

THUNDERER

Table of horse racing results for Thunderer, including races like 6.30 Flying Eagle, 7.00 Aunt Flo, 7.30 Break For Peace, 6.30 ROLLINGER CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP.

8.00 COLTS THAT STILL LIVE ON THE HILL

Table of horse racing results for 8.00 Colts That Still Live on the Hill, including races like 8.00 SPESH POWER, 8.30 ST LUCIA MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES, 9.00 TOROAO HANDICAP.

THUNDERER

Table of horse racing results for Thunderer, including races like 6.30 Flying Eagle, 7.00 Aunt Flo, 7.30 Break For Peace, 6.30 ROLLINGER CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP.

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FOOTBALL: POLISH TEAMS FACE INTERNATIONAL BAN

United must wait to discover opponents

THE Poland national side and the country's leading clubs face expulsion from international football, putting scheduled games against England and Manchester United in jeopardy.

BY JOHN GOODBODY

then this may be the price that needs to be paid for the recovery of Polish soccer.

Fifa rules state that national associations must be independent of governments.

The governing body said yesterday that, if the dismissed members were not reinstated, Fifa and Uefa may suspend the Polish Football Federation with immediate effect.

On Monday, Debicki offered a compromise, calling on the PZPN to hand over financial documents to the inquiry team.

Debski said that the football federation was "opposing Polish law and showing a complete lack of willingness to compromise".

The FA Cup will be sponsored for the next four years by Axa Assurance, the insurance company, in a deal worth £25 million.

The competition will be known as the Axa-sponsored FA Cup.

Phil Carling, the FA commercial director, said: "In selecting a sponsor for the competition, the FA had to be sensitive to the special traditions of the FA Cup."

Jamie Redknapp, the Liverpool and England midfielder player forced out of consideration for the World Cup squad by injury, underwent surgery yesterday on a cartilage tear in his left knee.

Scottish clubs stuck on continental shelf

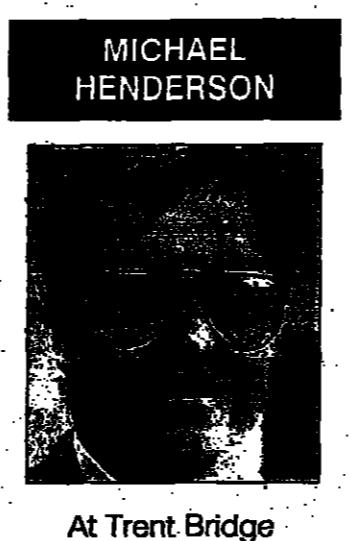
THEY have packed their teams full of continental drifters and lured wise foreign coaches, but Rangers and Celtic remain as reluctant as the Conservative Party when dealing with Europe.

Of course the two Glasgow clubs should never have been playing such vital European games in mid-July.

Mitigation aside, there was still enough ineptitude on display to suggest that it may not be long into the season before Rangers and Celtic supporters have nothing to excite them, other than their own parochial hostilities.

Had Martin Reilly's shot been six inches better directed, Celtic would be agonising over the most embarrassing result in the club's long, and once proud, European history.

Plain sailing as Salisbury wilts



At Trent Bridge



Flintoff, who capped a pleasing first day in Test cricket with the wicket of Kallis, prepares to bowl. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

It would have taken a heart of stone not to feel a twinge of sympathy for Ian Salisbury yesterday. Clearly, some spectators had arteries of flint.

When Salisbury came back after tea, it was to hoots of disdain from a crowd that is valued for being even-tempered.

Poor old Salisbury. It is two years since he last played for England, against Pakistan at the Oval, when Stewart, ever the enthusiast, could be picked up on the stump microphone bellowing: "You're the man, Solly."

scoring freely. At 28, the same age as Shane Warne and Mushtaq Ahmed, with whom comparisons cannot be avoided, however much he may resist them, he remains permanently, stubbornly promising.

Flintoff, who capped a pleasing first day in Test cricket with the wicket of Kallis, prepares to bowl. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

one ball that demands to be hit either to the boundary, or over it, in each over he bowls, and he certainly maintained those standards yesterday.

one ball that demands to be hit either to the boundary, or over it, in each over he bowls, and he certainly maintained those standards yesterday.

The other bowler the crowd were curious to see, Andrew Flintoff, made an encouraging start to his Test cricket.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT
Begin Bridge with The Times: Lesson 15 - MiniBridge 10
Last week I showed how choosing to play with a trump suit generated an extra trick when declarer ruffed a spade in the dummy.

West is the dealer and the points are announced: West 9, North 10, East 10 and South 11. South is declarer. North puts down the dummy. With a combined 21 points, the target should be 7 tricks.

By Philip Howard
BOTTEGA
a. A wine bar
b. A hat
c. An oak tun for Madeira

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT
Defending champion
The 1998 Smith & Williamson British championship starts at Torquay on Monday and there will be regular daily reports in The Times throughout the competition.

White: Charles Cobb
Black: Matthew Sadler
British championship Nottingham 1996
Torre Attack
1 d4 Nf6
2 Nf3 e5
3 Bg5 exd4
4 e3 cxd4
5 exd4 Bc7
6 Bc3 b5
7 Nd2 Bb7
8 c3 Nd5
9 Bae7 Qe7
10 g3 d-d
11 Qe2 d6
12 0-0 Nf7
13 Kf1 Rf8
14 Ka1 Bc8
15 c4 Nb4
16 Bb1 c3
17 Ff1 d-c4
18 Nc4 R-c8
19 Nce5 Bc7
20 a3 Nd5
21 Nd7 Qxd7
22 Ne5 Qe8
23 Qc3 g6
24 h4 b5
25 h5 b4
26 Fh1 Nc3
27 hvg6 hvg6
28 bxc3 Rxc3
29 Qe2 Qe4
30 Be2 Qd4
31 Qxb4 Qxb4
32 a3d4 Bb1
33 Fh1 Rb8
34 d5 Qd5
35 Rd1 Rd2

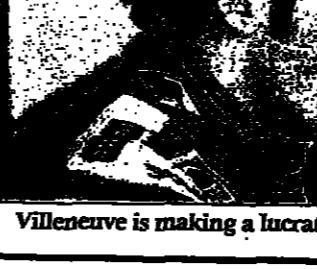
By Raymond Keene
White to play. This position is from the game Slobodjan-Hochgrafe, Hamburg, 1998.

Schumacher takes pride of place

THE seating plan was not intentional, but could have been taken as a symbolic representation of the fortunes of Formula One at the moment.

Schumacher arrived here, having agreed a £20 million-a-year deal with Ferrari, only to disclose that he had had a better offer from McLaren-Mercedes. Williams also

dashed in with a last-minute proposal once it became clear that Jacques Villeneuve was off to the new British American Racing (BAR) team run by Craig Pollock, his friend and mentor.



Villeneuve is making a lucrative but risky move to BAR

FROM KEVIN EASON IN ZELTWEG
history as the man who revived the Maranello team and steered it to its first drivers' world championship in almost 20 years.

The Formula One gravy train has pulled into this unlikely circuit deep in the mountains of Austria, two

hours south of Vienna. In the paddock, as the ranks of motorhomes were opened, the main activity seemed to be the putting of pen to chequebook.

But he is facing a rampant Villeneuve, who has won the past three grands prix and comes here with a radically improved Ferrari that he says will suit his fast circuit.

Clubs draw up new fixture list as Bristol call in receivers

THE long-awaited fixture list for the new season could be released today after the leading clubs set aside their differences at an emergency meeting in London last night.

One club official said: "We will finalise the fixtures overnight and submit them to Twickenham tomorrow for ratification. They contain no surprises, but we will certainly continue to do our best to play friendly matches outside the Allied Dunbar Premiership.

remains to be seen. Its position will become clearer today, after a management board meeting at Twickenham last night.

official tournaments that would compromise the Agreement and jeopardise relations with other unions.

want to resign from the Welsh Rugby Union and seek closer ties with England, but the financial and legal implications of such action would be enormous.

Holmes said last night: "I've got a nasty feeling that there will be a domino effect. Bristol will be the first major club to go and I think others will follow.

CRICKET
Fourth Cornhill Test match
11.0, second day of four, 50 overs minimum
TRENT BRIDGE: England v South Africa

LOWE lifts S failir
Swann s
BRISTOL RUGBY
RUGBY LEAGUE
FOOTBALL
PRE-SEASON MATCHES

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CRICKET

# Lower order lifts spirits of failing Lara

By RICHARD HOBBSON

EDGECASTON (first day of four): Warwickshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 74 runs ahead of Essex

WITH the clock yet to strike noon and Warwickshire teetering on 20 for four, it was hard to gauge what should have given Brian Lara more cause for concern — his decision to bat on winning the toss or his continuing poor form.

The answer became increasingly obvious throughout the afternoon as Warwickshire, demonstrating the resilience that has helped them win seven trophies in the past five seasons, gradually recovered the initiative to achieve a first-innings lead of 51 and complete an extraordinary day with the advantage.

On the debit side, however, is an injury sustained by Dougie Brown that will keep the all-rounder out of the remainder of the game and the NatWest Trophy quarter-final against Leicestershire on Tuesday. Brown broke a finger when he was hit by a delivery from Iran that reared sharply off a length and, although he returned in an attempt to partner Smith to a batting point, his discomfort was clear.

In Iran's previous over, Brown needed to react sharply to shield one that shot through low and there were further examples of uneven bounce. However, while 21 wickets fell in the day, prompting Trevor Jesy and Dickie Bird to report the pitch as a matter of routine, some of the stonework against the moving ball was at best misguided and at worst crass.

Essex are becoming used to such collapses. Against Derbyshire recently, 23 batsmen perished on the first day. Whereas on that occasion they dismissed the home side for 70, this time Essex met far sturdier resistance from the lower order.

Warwickshire had dropped Hemp and Penney after a run of

low scores, but with Powell, Wagh and Lara each out without scoring, the changes became open to question. Lara is collecting ducks the way he accumulated hundreds in 1994; this was his fourth in the championship. His return stands at 353 runs from 16 innings and the way he shuffled across the crease to his first ball, falling leg-before to Williams, suggested his confidence is drained.

A 50 stand between Knight and Brown ended when Knight hooked to long leg, and his dismissal set the tone for the remainder of the innings. Welch and Piper found wide mid-off drives, "on the up" and Giles offered a third edge to Hyam when he wafted at a ball well outside off stump.

The biggest mystery at Edgbaston concerns Smith, who is second only to Knight as leading scorer, with two hundreds this season to his name, but who finds himself batting at No 9. He was 43 not out when Brown succumbed, taking his aggregate to 575 at an average of more than 40. His were much the crispest strokes of the innings of 190.

Irlott had been the pick of the Essex bowlers, generating late movement both ways, and Giddins proved equally as effective from the same Pavilion End. Maintaining a full length, he had Prichard caught at mid-on and Peters held instinctively by Chris Howells, substituting for Brown, at short leg with consecutive balls before breaching the defence of the bespectacled Flanagan in his next over.

Welch, operating unchanged for 18 overs to take three for 69, bowled Crayston and Stuart Law top-edged an attempted sweep against the spin of Giles. Iran pushed ineffectually to Piper, having added 39 to his three wickets, and Danny Law succumbed in a similar manner to his Australian namesake. It needed an unbeaten 20 from Hyam to help Essex towards their 139.



Welch fends off a delivery as Warwickshire make amends for a poor start at Edgbaston

# Shah absolved from blame

LORD'S (second day of four): Yorkshire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 358 runs behind Middlesex

By BARNEY SPENDER

LORD'S (second day of four): Yorkshire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 358 runs behind Middlesex

CHAMPIONSHIP cricket attracts few enough spectators as it is, but if there is much more of the vapour drudgery that was served up at Lord's yesterday, it will not be long before they too are lured away from the game by the alternative attraction of a fledgling football season.

Weekes, who made 67, lost all sense of timing to the extent that when David Byas at slip ended his six-hour ordeal, it was almost an act of mercy.

The only real consolation down the order came from the unlikely source of Phil Tufnell, who surprised everyone, not least himself, by carving Hamilton over extra cover for six. It was less of a rarity and more of a museum piece.

Byas was an early casualty in the Yorkshire reply, bowled off an inside edge by Tufnell, and Matt Wood also perished just before the close, caught at short leg by Weekes's third ball, Michael Vaughan, however, played with some freedom to reach a 50 that included nine fours. Yorkshire still need another 209 to avoid the follow-on, but, given the placid nature of the pitch, they would have to bat very poorly this morning not to achieve that.

What were the Middlesex batsmen playing at? They had grafted hard on the opening day to establish a position of ascendancy, but rather than grasp the initiative on a pitch that, although slow, gave nothing to bowlers, they instead retreated into a defensive shell and allowed Yorkshire to dictate the game. A look at the scorecard shows that Middlesex did make 448, a score not to be sniffed at, but it took them five sessions to get there. Their scoring rate never reached three an over, and indeed, once Owais Shah was leg-before to the same Hamilton for a career-best 140, they ambled along at 2.3 runs per over.

# Swann steals the show

By PAT GIBSON

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Derbyshire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 447 runs behind Northamptonshire

ALLAN LAMB'S timing is not what it used to be. On the day the former England batsman said that the one thing Northamptonshire need is a batting coach, they ran up a total of 608 for six declared — and it was not even their highest score of the season.

Lamb, who is agitating for a return to the club he left in 1995, claims that Northamptonshire have been "an absolute shambles" this season and believes that he is the man to sort them out by kicking a few batsmen's backsides.

It may take more than that. There did not seem to be too much wrong with Northamptonshire's batting when they were scoring 712 to save the match against Glamorgan earlier this season, and it looked in good shape again yesterday when they were advancing from their overnight 335 for two to the biggest score they have made against Derbyshire. Then their most pressing

problem became apparent. They had left Derbyshire to score a little matter of 459 to avoid the follow-on but it was not going to be easy to bowl them out once, let alone twice, on a pitch that had offered no encouragement to either seam or spin.

In the circumstances, Derbyshire could mount no more than a damage-limitation exercise in the morning and that could hardly be considered successful as Bailey and Curran, Northamptonshire captains past and present, took their third-wicket partnership to 118 before Penberthy and Swann added a further 149 in only 25 overs.

Bailey, who had already completed his sixth century against Derbyshire, had moved on to 188, his highest score for five years, when he was leg-before to Dean. Curran was out for 59 in the next over, playing on to DeFreitas, but that only brought in Swann to demonstrate what a promising young cricketer he is.

He had scored 92 and 111 in Northamptonshire's last

match, against Leicestershire, and now he made 91 off only 75 balls, hitting two sixes and 15 fours with a range of high-class strokes. It was a surprise when he was out, caught at short fine leg sweeping at the left-arm spin of Roberts, who had been reduced to bowling into the rough long before, but there was still no respite for Derbyshire as Curran allowed Penberthy, who finished unbeaten on 68, and Ripley to put on a further 41 before declaring.

The stage was set for the long-awaited confrontation between Malcolm and the former Derbyshire colleagues about whom he has been so disparaging recently, but he was not even given the new ball. It went instead to Rose, who did not make much of it, and Taylor, who did, having Slater well caught by Loyal, low to his left at first slip, and then claiming May leg-before. Then, after an innocuous Malcolm spell, Rose returned to have Barnet caught at slip via the wicketkeeper's gloves, and only a hat-trick 51 by Weston, on his championship debut, enabled Derbyshire to reach 161 for four.

# Somerset manage to halt Harmison

By JOHN THICKNESSE

TAUNTON (second day of four): Somerset, with two first-innings wickets in hand, are 31 runs behind Durham

MICHAEL BURNS had no defence to the third ball Steve Harmison bowled to him at Taunton. Fast in pace and cutting back at a sharp angle off the pitch, it beat his bat by inches, only to bounce too high to hit the stumps. Burns was on naught at the time and had he been bowled, Somerset would have been 62 for five.

Instead, going for his strokes on a pitch that has both pace and bounce, he added 81 with Piran Holloway at a stage when Durham were well placed to take command of it.

Durham might have been cross with themselves for being bowled out for 259 after restarting from Wednesday's 168 for three, especially after David Boon, the captain, who resumed on 52 not out, straight drove three fours,

and hit a fourth four off his legs, from his first 12 balls. For once, however, luck ran for Andy Caddick, who had Boon caught at the wicket down the leg side for 73.

Durham's disappointing score was looking more than adequate, however, when the 19-year-old Harmison ripped through Somerset's top order in nine overs, bowling at high speed.

When Boon kept Harmison going for more than an hour and a half, it looked too long for the lanky teenager. But the youngster fully justified his captain's confidence and was finally rested after 13 overs with figures of three for 37.

Bets, strongly built and a good five inches shorter than his bowling partner, also bowled some rapid overs, clarifying his high position in the national averages without quite explaining it. If Simon Britton's recent operation puts his knee to rights, Durham should be a force to reckon with next season.

# Crawley awaits winter

By JOHN STERN

COLWYN BAY (second day of four): Glamorgan, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 306 runs behind Lancashire

IT MAY still be mid-summer, allegedly, but the likes of John Crawley must surely be allowing thoughts of winter to fill their minds. There will be no international summons this season for Crawley, who yesterday scored a second consecutive century for Lancashire, but the winter offers an incentive.

The Ashes tour, although a long shot, cannot be ruled out, given that he had some success in Australia on the 1994-95 tour. He also falls, like Mark Ramprakash, into that category of players who look so good for their countries that it is impossible to believe that they will not succeed at a higher level. If he does not make it to Australia, though, then he must surely be a candidate to captain the on-off England A team, should it actually take place.

Having been seventh out for 124, an innings that included 21 finely timed boundaries, Crawley had a turn at leading

his side. Wasim Akram went off the field briefly with a groin strain and his vice-captain had the pleasure of throwing the ball to Chris Schofield, the 19-year-old leg-spin bowler, for his first over in first-class cricket. As it turned out, though, that one over was simply to allow Peter Martin to change ends.

Replying to Lancashire's 366 all out, Glamorgan made a positive reply. Their opening partnership of Wayne Law, 19, and wicket-keeper Imaail Dawood, 22 yesterday, boasted all the experience of 153 first-class runs between them and was the fifteenth pair to have opened the batting for Glamorgan in the various competitions this season.

Matthew Maynard, the Glamorgan captain, would probably have opened, as he has done in the past two first-class games, had he not received a painful injury in the groin fielding at cover point when a Crawley drive bounced unkindly. However, by the time a downpour ended proceedings at a windswept Rhos-on-Sea, Law and

Dawood had put on 60 for the first wicket in 13 overs. Law, in particular, played with tremendous confidence, driving without inhibition at Wasim and Martin.

Heavy overnight rain delayed the start of play until 1.30 after an early lunch. Crawley, 75 not out, was sluggish at first, taking an hour to score seven runs. Watkinson went early, playing across the line to Watkin and Hegg's arrival seemed to spur Crawley into a more aggressive frame of mind.

His first four of the day was a superb back-foot cover drive off Parkin. Hegg slashed two fours in an over off Croft, who persevered to record his best first-class figures of the season. One of his four wickets was that of Crawley, who was caught by Parkin at deep square leg off a sweep.

Crawley's 124 was his highest score, and his third century of the season. The day before, Graham Lloyd had recorded his first fifty of the year and Wasim also passed his previous best with 43 from 55 balls, including two sixes, one of which disappeared into Penrhyn Avenue.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

LANCASHIRE: First Innings	20
N Wood c and b D Croll	1
J P Clewley c Parn and b Smith	12
M Whetton b D Croll	13
D Lloyd c D Croll b D Croll	2
M Watkinson b W Cram	50
N W F Hegg c D Croll b D Croll	12
J G Cripps c Parn and b D Croll	1
P J Mason c Cram and b Parn	6
A D Assun c Wagh and b Croll	3
C P Schofield not out	1
Extras (b 1, nb 10)	11
Total (117.6 overs)	258
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-85, 3-113, 4-192, 5-214, 6-249, 7-336, 8-343	
BOWLING: Martin 25-1-149-2, Parn 20-2-79-2, Croll 37-7-16-1, Cripps 13-3-48-0, Dale 9-2-30-1, Croll 27-7-76-4	
GLAMORGAN: First Innings	37
W Law not out	0
I Dawood not out	0
Extras (b 5, nb 4)	9
Total (no wks, 13 overs)	60
J D Ruddle c Church b Wagh	8
R J Cauffie b Wagh	8
J J Ward c Russell b Smith	32
R C Harrison b Lloyd	32
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
Extras (b 1, nb 0)	0
Total (87.6 overs)	111
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-18, 3-38, 4-42, 5-94	
BOWLING: Wagh 10-1-34-2, Smith 11-2-38-1, Lloyd 6-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Lloyd 11-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1	

CHELTENHAM (second day of four): Surrey, with five second-innings wickets in hand, are 241 runs ahead of Gloucestershire	
SURREY: First Innings	20
J D Ruddle c Church b Wagh	8
J J Ward c Russell b Smith	32
R C Harrison b Lloyd	32
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
Extras (b 1, nb 0)	0
Total (87.6 overs)	111
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-18, 3-38, 4-42, 5-94	
BOWLING: Wagh 10-1-34-2, Smith 11-2-38-1, Lloyd 6-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Lloyd 11-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1	

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SURREY: First Innings	20
J D Ruddle c Church b Wagh	8
J J Ward c Russell b Smith	32
R C Harrison b Lloyd	32
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
M G N Watkinson c Sagarin b Bicknell	23
Extras (b 1, nb 0)	0
Total (87.6 overs)	111
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-18, 3-38, 4-42, 5-94	
BOWLING: Wagh 10-1-34-2, Smith 11-2-38-1, Lloyd 6-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Lloyd 11-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1, Parn 12-1-18-1, Jones 8-1-18-1	

NOTTINGHAM (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 33 runs behind Hampshire	
NOTTINGHAM: First Innings	128 (N A M McQueen 4 for 48)
M P Downman c Loney b Henley	1
J E R Johnson not out	81
M J Wood c Burns b Woodcock	14
P H Huchison not out	0
Extras (b 4, nb 10)	11
Total (2 wks, 36 overs)	228
Hampshire: First Innings	9
M P Downman c Loney b Henley	1
J E R Johnson not out	81
M J Wood c Burns b Woodcock	14
P H Huchison not out	0
Extras (b 4, nb 10)	11
Total (2 wks, 36 overs)	228

TAUNTON (second day of four): Somerset, with two first-innings wickets in hand, are 31 runs behind Durham	
SOMERSET: First Innings	12
P D Bowler c Sagarin b Hammerson	12
P C Holloway c Foster b Batts	42
M E Treweek c Sagarin b Hammerson	42
R K Peterson c Sagarin b Hammerson	4
K A Peterson c Sagarin b Hammerson	4
M E Treweek c Sagarin b Hammerson	4
M E Treweek c Sagarin b Hammerson	4
Extras (b 1, nb 2)	14
Total (14 wks, 78 overs)	228
Durham: First Innings	9
M P Downman c Loney b Henley	1
J E R Johnson not out	81
M J Wood c Burns b Woodcock	14
P H Huchison not out	0
Extras (b 4, nb 10)	11
Total (2 wks, 36 overs)	228

EDGECASTON (first day of four): Warwickshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 74 runs ahead of Essex	
WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings	20
M J Powell b D Croll	0
N V Knight c Parn and b D Croll	34
M J Powell b D Croll	0
N V Knight c Parn and b D Croll	34
M J Powell b D Croll	0
N V Knight c Parn and b D Croll	34
M J Powell b D Croll	0
N V Knight c Parn and b D Croll	34
Extras (b 1, nb 10)	11
Total (62.4 overs)	111
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-0, 3-4, 4-20, 5-70, 6-139, 7-149, 8-161, 9-173	
BOWLING: Lloyd 10-2-34-0, Wagh 15-3-72-3, D Croll 11-4-41-1, Smith 13-4-62-3	
Essex: First Innings	9
M P Downman c Loney b Henley	1
J E R Johnson not out	81
M J Wood c Burns b Woodcock	14
P H Huchison not out	0
Extras (b 4, nb 10)	11
Total (2 wks, 36 overs)	228

# Mascarenhas finds correct approach

By JACK BAILEY

PORTSMOUTH (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 33 runs behind Hampshire

THE labours of Hercules were not quite finished after all, it seems. After much hopping around by the batsmen of both sides on Wednesday, the six-ton heavy roller was brought back into action yesterday, both before play and then during the interval between innings. "This came with the approval of both captains, and in spite of the perceived wisdom that the old boy was too heavy.

The result was a quieter day. There was something in the pitch for the bowlers, but not too much. The balance between bat and ball had been restored and a game that looked as though it might not go into a third day is still very much alive.

Nottinghamshire's first innings lead of 173 and although Jason Gallian played a large part in making inroads into the Hampshire advantage, Nottinghamshire are still in arrears. Gallian and Paul Johnson, Nottinghamshire's feisty little captain, have put on 99 in 31 overs. Gallian moving past 50 in 86 balls and dominating the scoring.

The day, however, belonged to Mascarenhas. Born in Hammersmith of Sri Lankan parents, and raised in Australia, he is having a golden season. Before this year, his highest championship score was 21. He had made three half-centuries in 1998 before his 89 yesterday. During partnerships of 103 with Lane and 67 with Udal, he displayed all the right qualities, including the ability to dispatch the ball. He hit 14 fours in a stay of 34 hours and together with Lane's batting half-century and brisk contributions from Udal and McLean, was largely responsible for seeing Hampshire to their handsome lead.

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THE OFFICIAL SERVICE OF THE ENGLISH CRICKET BOARD

Spectator injured as tempers flare at County Week

Tranquillity recedes as ruling kicks up a racket

By Julian Muscat, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

A TYPICALLY British problem yielded a typically British compromise at Eastbourne yesterday when Mike Ingham was fortunate to escape the ignominy of being defaulted from the Inter-County Cup.

That he should have been thrown out was plain to all who witnessed Ingham forcefully kick his racket, which hit a court-side spectator full in the face. The man, a playing member at Eastbourne, needed first aid as blood trickled from a nasty wound to his forehead.

The rules brook no argument in such situations: Ingham should have been instantly defaulted from Lancashire's match against Buckinghamshire. However, a combination of circumstances allowed him to walk away from the tournament on his own terms.

It took Dewick and his advisers some 90 minutes of discussion, appeals, threats and counter-threats to arrive at their no-action stance. There were technical reasons which made the issue of Ingham's disqualification more complicated than it should have been, particularly Dewick's reluctance to act as soon as he reached the scene.

transpired was Dewick's original decision - to allow Ingham to play on, with a severe warning over his conduct.

It was only after a formal appeal by Buckinghamshire, details of which did not appear in Dewick's official statement, that Lancashire decided to withdraw Ingham. Trying to establish what actually happened in the disciplinary procedure was akin to searching for a needle in a dense haystack, and the whole unwelcome mess was not helped by Dewick's role as Buckinghamshire's representative at the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA). To make matters worse, Dewick's son, Kevin, was playing for Buckinghamshire in this tense relegation struggle.

There is no suggestion whatsoever that Dewick's Buckinghamshire links affected his judgment - quite the opposite, to judge by his original decision to allow Ingham to play on. Nevertheless, Dewick should not be exposed to a situation in which he might be associated with a conflict of loyalties.

Another unwelcome suggestion from Dewick, who took advice from senior LTA officials present at Eastbourne, was that the onus was on the Buckinghamshire players to halt the match and lodge an immediate protest. This effectively puts pressure on players to squeal on each other.

It is precisely to avoid this scenario that referees and umpires are appointed to adjudicate. And if it all sounds a little too serious for County Week, an event bereft of prize-money with the emphasis on camaraderie, try telling that to the injured man.

The incident soured an otherwise exciting day of tennis. Buckinghamshire eventually defeated Lancashire to keep alive their prospects of avoid-



Foot fault: Ingham leaves after a meeting with Dewick, the referee

ing relegation. That issue will be settled today when they play Devon, themselves beaten in a close match by Berkshire. The winners kept up their pursuit of Hampshire & Isle of Wight, the defending champions, whom they meet in a title decider today.

Hampshire eventually overcame Kent after a number of titanic matches, notably the

scrap in which Chris Wilkinson and Laurence Matthews, of Hampshire, edged out Austen Brice and Oliver Preevle 7-5 in the deciding set.

In the women's event, South Wales were relegated after their fourth consecutive loss, this time 7-2 to Lancashire. South Wales had missed the skills of Sarah Loosemore, who was forced to

return to work after playing until Wednesday. Loosemore had won eight of her nine rubbers.

The victory by Lancashire, promoted last year, puts them in strong contention for overall victory. Their premier pair of Ann Driver and Lorraine SAFIRUDDIN have been outstanding in winning 11 of their 12 rubbers to date.

SWIMMING: MANIPULATION CLAIMS TO BE PUT TO DOPING PANEL

Testers' notes implicate Smith

Craig Lord reveals more of the evidence against the triple Olympic champion

The testing team that collected a urine sample from Michelle Smith in January this year claims to have made contemporaneous notes about the strong smell of alcohol emanating from the specimen, a doping panel of three lawyers will hear in Lanes today.

Smith, 28, who promulgated week-long parties in Ireland when she won three Olympic titles in Atlanta in 1996, faces expulsion from the sport if the panel considering the accusation that she tampered with the drug test sample finds against her. She has consistently and adamantly denied the allegations.

The urine specimen, provided on January 10 at Smith's home in Kilkenny, near Dublin, contained potentially lethal levels of alcohol, believed to be whiskey. The penalty for manipulation can be anything up to a life ban.

acutely aware of a strong smell of alcohol emanating from the sample provided by Smith as it was sealed in the testing jar in front of the swimmer.

The Guys have not been asked to attend the hearing today, which will be chaired by Hans Beyer, a German judge. He will be assisted by Bernard Favaro, a Californian, and Ben Bekkacem Farid of Algeria.

Fina claims that the urine sample in question showed "unequivocal signs of adulteration" and "obvious manipulation". The laboratory noted a "very strong whiskey

odour". Medical experts say that the presence of alcohol could indicate that someone had wanted to spoil the sample so that any analysis results would be unreliable.

In tampering is covered under the Fina rule governing banned techniques, which allows the use of any "method which alters the integrity and validity of urine".

In regard to the manipulation, Lennon believes that the burden of proof rests with Fina. Smith has also complained about the specific gravity of the urine sample, though the laboratory refutes suggestions of irregularity.

If the case goes against Smith, a life ban is unlikely. A two-year suspension would

mean that she would be eligible, by a matter of weeks, to compete at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, when she would be 30. It also remains to be seen whether the panel will apply the rule that allows for retrospective action; any race results in the six months before an adverse drug-test result can be annulled.

The panel will be mindful that in every swimming referral bar one - that of Richard Upton, an Australian, this year - the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has reduced the original penalty. Smith has already stated her intention to appeal to CAS if the case goes against her. "I have no intention of taking this lying down and I have no intention of being bullied by any organisation, national or international," she said in April.

The panel will also consider today the cases of four Chinese swimmers who tested positive for trimetoprim - a diuretic, and the world championships in January, an event that Smith did not attend. The diuretic is banned because it can mask the presence of performance-enhancing substances, such as anabolic steroids.

Tomorrow, the panel will also judge the case of Michael Fibbens, of Britain, who tested positive for a derivative of cocaine in March.



Smith: complaint

SAILING

Germans at helm as Dutch fall back

By Edward Gorman, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

THE second day of racing in the fourth Rolex Commodore's Cup yesterday saw the strong German red team take the lead, as the overnight pace-setters, the Dutch green team, were pushed down to third place by their compatriots in the red team.

The German red team were in sparkling form with both the big boat, Haze, and Sequana, winning both their races. Sequana has yet to lose a race in a series where she has established a strong hold in the middle boat class.

The England red team slipped a place to fourth overall with Quokka posting two thirds, Prospect two fifths and Victor a disappointing fifth and sixth.

Racing for the second successive day on two windward/leeward courses on a Solent swept by fresh to strong southerly-westerlies, some of the crews were again stretched by the challenge of handling sails downwind.

Among the casualties was the England green team small boat, Cetawong, which suffered a jammed rudder after rounding the first windward marker in the first race and the big boat in that team Autodesk, which trailed in last of seven in the second race after problems with her mainsail.

Mike Gidding in mid-Atlantic in Team Group 4, meanwhile, is beginning to make progress towards the Atlantic Alone Race finish at Charleston, despite struggling with a broken cooker and damaged genset, he lies 800 miles behind leader Giovanni Soldini in FILA.

Answers from page 44

(a) An artist's workshop or studio, especially in Italy. In Italian the word means a small shop or studio.

(b) A species of bat, the little nocturnal flying mammal, formally known as Myotis daubentoni, of Europe and parts of Asia. The eponym of Louis Jean Marie Daubenton (1716-1800), French naturalist.

(c) A type of Bohemian dance, or its music, in quick triple time with frequently-shifting accents. The Czech name for the dance.

(d) In the mythology of some Australian Aboriginal peoples, the Golden Age, when the first ancestors were created. In Aboriginal, it means "dream time".

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE  
1. Nigh7 and f1... Qag7; 2. Re5-Kf7; 3. Q5+; 4. Qc4.

Advertisement for 'ales' (aluminum) featuring a large image of a person's face and text: 'Last exceptional discounted pricing this coming Saturday 25th 10am-7pm. Showroom models also available. ROCHER BOBOIS PARIS. 021-425 Fidelity Blvd. Newport News VA 23601. Tel: (804) 682-1111 - Fax: (804) 682-1111. web: E3000@igateway.com WWW.RocherBobois.com. EXPRESSING YOUR INTERIOR WORLD.'

TELEVISION CHOICE  
Going round in circles



Dominic Monaghan and Patricia Routledge search for buried treasure (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Country Tracks  
BBC2, 8.00pm  
The jovial Pete McCarthy is back with another series of the countryside magazine and what an odd mixture this first programme is. McCarthy's own contribution is an item on stone circles - the somewhat pointless theme of which is that nobody knows who built them or why. Shaunna Lowry makes her debut on the show by going in search of a fox and struggling to get even a glimpse of one, and Martin Bell (the skier, not the MP) tries to interest us in the arcane pursuit of skiing on grass. It is left to the actress Prunella Scales to provide some ballast as she goes on a countryside walk in north Devon, revisiting childhood haunts first experienced as a war-time evacuee. But the highlight of the series could be the challenge to a group of volunteers to survive in the wild for five days.

Lonely Planet  
Channel 4, 8.00pm  
Ian Wright's planet is not that lonely for even in Thailand and Laos he bumps into British tourists who probably thought that the last thing they could come across so far off the European track was a Channel 4 film crew. But the rationale of the series, to show us places untouched by package tours or Judith Chalmers, remains credible. There cannot be many Britons who join a tug of war where the opposition consists of an elephant or spend two days on a river wearing a crash helmet against possible disaster. As usual, far too much is covered in far too little time, giving the impression that hardly have Wright's feet landed in one place than they are being whisked off to another. But he does his best to take the countries on their own terms and only occasionally, as with Thailand kickboxing, lapses into the innocent-foreigner routine.

Hefty Waite Investigates  
BBC1, 9.30pm  
An iron ore mine in Cumberland supplies local colour as Patricia Routledge's OAP detective returns for a fourth series. One of the pleasures of the show has been its sense of place, even if the authenticity of the northwestern locations is matched by the improbability of the lame-day Miss Marple. But once you accept Hefty and her

young assistant so engagingly played by Dominic Monaghan on their own terms, disbelief can be enjoyably suspended. The mine is the cue for a modern tale of buried treasure, in the form of valuable minerals, that comes to light after a miner is killed in a tunnel collapse. As usual, the crime is solved without resort to violence and Philip Martin's script has space for a lighthearted subplot involving Hefty's stalwart husband (Derek Benfield) and his cherished allotment.

Stephen King's Golden Years  
Channel 5, 10.50pm  
An eight-part drama about reverse ageing may be notable as King's first original work for television but in plot terms we have been here before. The prototype for Golden Years that springs most readily to mind is The X-Files, another series built around dodgy scientific experiments, official cover-up and a glamorous woman investigator. At the centre of the tale is a janitor who, at the lab's secret government laboratory upstate New York, at 70 his age is catching up with him and he arrives at work to be told that he no longer meets the eyesight requirements. His bad day gets worse when he is caught in a chemical explosion and starts to exhibit strange symptoms, such as his eyelids glowing green in the dark. The lab's attractively sinister chief (Pellicity Huffman) is charged with the investigation. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Interval: The Flesh Made Word  
Radio 3, 8.15pm  
During the last three Proms seasons, Radio 3 has run a series of interval talks about the relationship between individual belief, if any, and its linguistic expression. Fay Weldon and A.N. Wilson have contributed 20-minute talks on the subject and now comes a new series of five talks, launched by John Mortimer, who is an atheist. There are two strands tonight. One is that blasphemy (Mortimer successfully defended Guy Newnes against a blasphemy charge) is an incongruous offence given that, in Mortimer's view, people are more in need of protection from religion than the other way around. But he also has some good words to say for Christian morality, which he acknowledges as the origin of his own moral code.

RADIO 1  
6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whitey. Includes 12.30pm News 3.00 Dave Pearce 5.45 Newsbeat 8.00 Rita Torg's Essential Selection 8.30 Dave Pearce's Live Dance Party. Pearce is joined by Judge Jules at a live dance party on the beach at Padiham, Liverpool 10.30pm Westwood: Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00am Fabio and Grooverider 4.00 Emma B

RADIO 2  
6.00am Sarah Kenney 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 3.00 John Dunn 7.00 Disney's Woman 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. Ken Bruce introduces the BBC2 Concert Cerebus 9.15 Ciocheterre. Andrew Sachs continues his reading of Gabriel Chevalier's comic masterpiece. The French Army is summoned to break up the riots 8.30 The Mountbatten Festival of Music 10.30 Stendan Morley 12.05am Jeff Owen 4.00 Jackie Bird

RADIO 5 LIVE  
6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell. Topical phone-ins and Sun news 12.00 The Midday News. Headlines from the World's Essential Selection with Alan Robb 1.00pm Race and Co 4.00 Neilwoods with Jane Garvey 7.00pm News Extra 7.30pm Friday Sport. The night's action, including rugby league coverage as Hull Sharks take on Huddersfield Giants, and the AFA Championships in Birmingham 10.00pm Late Night Live, with Brian Hayes, including The Financial World Tonight 1.00am Up All Night. Richard Dallow presents worldwide news coverage

TALK RADIO  
6.00am The New Talk Radio Breakfast 9.00 Scott Oshelton 11.00 Loraine Kelly 1.00pm Anne Rastum 3.00 Tommy Boyd 5.00 Peter Dwyer 7.00 Nick Abbot 9.00 Mike Allen 1.00am Mike Dickinson

RADIO 3  
6.00am On Air, with Petroc Trelawny. Includes Mozart (Porgi Amor); Janáček (Pohodka); Sibelius (Karelia Suite)  
9.00 Musicweek, with Paddy Gars. Handel (Organ Concerto in F); Clementi (Symphony No 3 in G)  
10.30 Proms Artist of the Week: Ym Pascal Tortelero  
11.00 Sound Stories: Historical Figures. Profiles of five world figures: 5. John F. Kennedy  
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Karol Szymanowski  
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert: Concerto in F Major, Op 17 No 2; in F sharp minor, Op 19 No 3; Beethoven (Harrison's Cloaks, first Misce; Beethoven (Harrison's Cloaks, first Misce; Beethoven (Harrison's Cloaks, first Misce)  
2.00 BBC Proms 8th, Includes Poulenc (Gloria); Henri Dutilleul (The Shadows of Time, first UK performance); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 5 in E minor)  
4.00 Voices and Vibia, with Chris de Souza presents the best of early music on CD including works by Hadziwasi, Victoria, Pandofo Melani, Kraus and Scialoja  
4.45 Quartet. Serial by Steve May about four musicians just out of college who form a radical

Orange Halves Are Not the Only Fruit  
Radio 4, 11.30pm  
I winced at the title and nearly passed on to some other programme but in fact this is further, and entertaining, proof that there are still some stones unturned in the search for new ways to put a sports programme on the air without actually involving any competitive sport: indeed, the whole point of Jasper Playdell's programme is that it covers the time when nothing is happening on the court, pitch, field and so forth. Apparently Jimmy Connors used to read letters with his mother during the break between sets and Ivan Lendl told the umpire blue jokes. But the sporting break has become part of the game, with players getting themselves psyched up and warmed up for the next stage of the battle. Peter Barnard

RADIO 4  
6.00am Sarah Kenney 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 3.00 John Dunn 7.00 Disney's Woman 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. Ken Bruce introduces the BBC2 Concert Cerebus 9.15 Ciocheterre. Andrew Sachs continues his reading of Gabriel Chevalier's comic masterpiece. The French Army is summoned to break up the riots 8.30 The Mountbatten Festival of Music 10.30 Stendan Morley 12.05am Jeff Owen 4.00 Jackie Bird

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A vertical sidebar on the right side of the page containing various small advertisements and notices. It includes a 'THE TIMES' logo at the top, several small ads for products like 'KALIA' (an Arabic name) and other services. There are also some notices regarding newspaper subscriptions and local events. The text is small and partially obscured by the page's right edge.

# A monstrous regiment of unreal women

Ray Weldon's *Big Women* (Channel 4) juddered to a halt last night, the story, as ever, dominated by unpleasant or drippy characters. Weldon's novels have always tended to operate at the level of psychological power-plays. This has been her unique angle on sexual politics, and has often given them a refreshing human directness.

Unfortunately, in this hastily assembled edifice, she has applied this method to something which has pretensions to provide an overview of the history of female liberation. The end product has been a brain-tub of assorted monsters (she is very good at monsters) and wretched ciphers embodying an assortment of socio-philosophical positions. Between them they generate all the human warmth and a vivarium full of poisonous snakes and their small furry victims.

If the series had simply been a black moral fable with a dash of

melodrama and a twist of satire, none of this would have mattered. We could have revelled innocently in the cruel machinations of Layla, the hard-bitten fox, cynical, scheming and contemptuous, savaging the politically correct chickens of the Medusa publishing coop.

Daniela Nardini filled this role with such chilling conviction that it was quite difficult to work out why so many male characters wanted to go to bed with her, especially her suave, handsome, sophisticated Asian "uncle" Jamal (Art Malik). Her *This Life* character Anna was a soft, cuddly toy by comparison. Her grand finale, gloatingly defeating her former friends and colleagues at the Medusa shareholders' meeting, lactating their lives and achievements, was so steeped in contempt that it was bound to wonder if Weldon really despises the sisters herself.

The other principal monster to fly out of Weldon's feminist Pandora's

box was Saffron. The daughter of suicide victim Zoe was a blonde super-bitch, straight from the few pages left in a Julie Burchill novel when you have removed the pornography. What havoc she played among the neutered tomcat men created by feminist mother! How callously she destroyed the cosseted fuddy-duddies of the old order. We could also have a good laugh at New Age mother-goddess worshippish Alice, going loopy in her "heaven, though in touch with the "heart shakra of the Universe".

As a stock-take of the state of contemporary feminism, however, this was a travesty. Women's lives have changed, or failed to change, in a bewildering variety of ways since the 1960s. You can find every conceivable shading of liberation, oppression, alienation, warmth, disappointment or fulfillment on any suburban street. This was a Punch and

## REVIEW



Paul Hoggart

Judy show which ignored the complexity of women's experience. You could get a much better sense of the parameters of women's lives and images by watching the first episodes of two new series which began as *Big Women* convulsed and died.

*Medicine Women* (BBC1) could not have been a more powerful testimony to what some have actually achieved. We followed the

life and work of Judy Evans, one of a pitifully small number of female consultant plastic surgeons. Evans isn't given to grandiose theorising about changing women's lives; she gets on and does it.

This is usually achieved by chopping bits off them, although occasionally by stuffing extra bits in. Here is no complacent, golf-club fat-cat. Her private practice subsidises the care of her husband, incapacitated by Parkinson's disease, and her children's boarding school placement. She works long hours for the National Health Service and finds the time to tour local beaches dishing out leaflets warning unwary families about the dangers of skin cancer.

They played a Spice Girls song on *Big Women*, with the message that women can be what they want to be. Judy Evans is a devoted wife and mother, wholesome but utterly unglamorous, but she seems to have taken that message to heart.

She sees the psychological damage of having a perceived abnormality as a cruelty comparable to the physical damage of a disease.

There was a jolly, 64-year-old private patient who was thrilled to bits by her face lift, preferring that taut plastic, Miami Beach look to the gracious ravages of time. But most of those who came to her were in distress: a little girl with sticking-out ears (you can hear the playground taunts), a flat-chested young woman who felt permanently pre-pubertal; and the mother of a boy with cystic fibrosis, whose breasts were so big it made it exhausting for her to care for him.

This was not for the squeamish. She, sliced, chopped, stuffed and trussed like a butcher, removing more than a stone of flesh during the breast reduction operation, before grafting the nipples back on like garnish. Sadly, she was too

late to help the elderly gent with the advanced malignant melanoma, but the beneficiaries of her cosmetic skills all seemed delighted, relieved of some terrible burden, ready to face the world with new confidence.

Actually there are quite a lot of women like Evans around - independent, highly skilled, committed, caring, happily attached and at ease with their lives. They just don't seem to make it as characters in dramas about modern women.

There was even a bit of a feminist subplot in *Babes in the Wood*, ITV's new sitcom, set in a Stroudshire Wood that which, one suspects, the characters would not be able to afford. Never mind, this is fast-moving, old-fashioned seaside postcard humour, stuffed with gags, some funny, most corny and about as consciousness-raising as a kebap night with Paul Gascoigne. *Plus ça change*.

### BBC

- 6.00am Breakfast (54683)
- 7.00am BBC Breakfast News (7415)
- 9.00 All Over the Shop (3732250)
- 9.20 Kilroy (1) (3027329)
- 10.00 Meet the Challenge (7216499)
- 10.25 Wear It Well (1) (4451502)
- 10.40 News (1) (9633599)
- 10.50 International Cricket: Fourth Test - introduces early action from day two at Trent Bridge (1687807)
- 1.00pm News (1) and weather (77502)
- 1.30 Regional News (1) (15633873)
- 1.40 Neighbours (1) (4907782)
- 2.05 Racing from Ascot: Clara Balding and Willie Carson introduce coverage of the 2.15, 2.45, 3.15, and the 3.50 races (345899)
- 4.05 Bailey Kipper's POV (9922873) 4.25 On Your Marks... New series featuring zany art tips (8161322) 4.40 The Mask (7581724) 5.00 Newsround - Euro-Stars! Twelve-year-old Ana Kana examines the Green Revolution in Greece, leading a group dedicated to saving the loggared turtles and helps to release one back into the wild. Last in series (1) (3745786) 5.10 The Biz (1) (1) (6340327)
- 5.35 Neighbours (1) (1) (509786)
- 6.00 News (1) and weather (347)
- 6.30 Regional News (1) (927)
- 7.00 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Leslie Phillips and Mariella Frostrup challenge Brian Turner and Antony Worrall Thompson to whip up a culinary treat with their mystery ingredients (1) (1279)
- 7.30 Top of the Pops: Jayne Middlemiss introduces videos and live performances of the latest chart sounds (1) (363892)
- 7.55 Family Ties: A Touch of Class Besieged and Battered: Basil Fawlty tries to attract a better class of clientele. Vintage comedy, starring John Cleese, Prunella Scales and Andrew Sachs (1) (230057)
- 8.30 Driving School: Another chance to see the fly-on-the-windscreen series that launched the TV career of Maureen Ross (1) (1) (9434)
- 9.00 News (1) and weather (6328)
- 9.30 Hetty Wainthrop Investigates: Something to Treasure The Wainthrop Detective Agency gets back to some serious sleuthing, but the first case to crop up is far from typical - it involves hunting for buried treasure in the folds of Cumbria (1) (85181)
- 10.20 Chef Comedy, starring Lesley Henry, Caroline Lee Johnson and Dave Hill (1) (1) (926368)
- 10.50 Heartburn: Hotel Comedy about a former soldier running a Birmingham hotel inhabited by the city's social outcasts (1) (1) (293328)
- 11.25 Sierpko (1970) Al Pacino turns in an acclaimed performance in a tough undercover New York cop who exposes corruption among his colleagues. Directed by Sidney Lumet (1) (853340)
- 12.5am Weather (724814)
- 1.30 BBC News 24

VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes The numbers after each programme are for VIDEO Plus+ programming. Put the code in the VCR (number) for the relevant programme into your video recorder for easy tuning. For more details call VIDEO Plus+ on 0640 750710. VIDEO Plus+ is a registered trademark of Genetec Development Corporation. © 1998

### BBC2

- 6.10am Fueling the Philippines Tiger (7813788) 6.35 Power's Return (5148268)
- 7.00 Teletubbies (1) (1569787) 7.25 Spot (3182027) 7.30 Dink, the Little Dinosaur (515927) 7.35 Cartoon Critics (1) (1) (4207502) 8.20 Tom and Jerry Kids (2156231) 8.45 The Busy World of Richard Scary (2846434) 9.10 Peter Pan and the Pirates (1) (1) (8333988) 9.35 Sweet Valley High (1) (4685450)
- 10.00 Teletubbies (3511881) 10.25 Noddy (445144) 10.40 Toonland (1) (252727) 11.15 The New Adventures of Supermean (1) (1) (3584231) 12.00 The Record (836057) 12.25pm Working Lunch (8628960)
- 1.00 The Beechgrove Garden Climbers for the low-maintenance garden (75144)
- 1.30 TechnoFood: The delights of the Chinese takeaway (4560081)
- 1.35 Cricket: Fourth Test - England v South Africa Coverage to the close of play of the second day at Trent Bridge (6262873)
- 6.25 The Simpsons: Bart puts a damper on Thanksgiving celebrations (1) (1) (911908)
- 6.45 Star Trek: The crew get stranded on a hostile planet (1) (1) (275434)
- 7.35 The Plan and Stimp Show (1) (1) (360705)
- Prunella Scales remembers her childhood in north Devon (8pm)
- 8.00 Country Tracks: The purpose of neolithic standing stones; Shauna Lowy looks for fox cubs; Prunella Scales reminisces about her childhood as an evacuee in north Devon (1) (8569)
- 8.30 Gardeners' World: Alan Titchmarsh says viewers' pruning worries to rest; and Pippa Greenwood joins in the British Chelsea Society's diamond jubilee celebrations. Plus: a British woman whose garden is a bit of a cliffhanger - literally (1) (7076)
- 9.00 Splitting Heirs (1993) with Eric Idle, Rick Moranis and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Black comedy about a case of mistaken identity that arises when an upper-class English aristocrat dies. Directed by Robert Young (1) (8927)
- 9.00 WALEs: Homeland (8811) 10.00 Looking Good (87788)
- 10.30 Newsnight with Gordon Brewer (1) (494945)
- 11.15 Cricket: Fourth Test Highlights from Trent Bridge (732892)
- 11.55 King of Hearts (1966) with Alan Bates and Genevieve Bufile. Comic drama about an army private who is sent to prevent an evacuated town from being destroyed by a bomb. Directed by Philippe de Broca (84754)
- 1.30am Space: Above and Beyond (1) (1) (4941039)
- 2.15 Weather (9058361)

### HTV

- 6.00am GMTV (1019415)
- 9.25 Extreme Dinosaurs (1) (8318298)
- 9.50 Judge Judy (1) (464615)
- 10.20 Regional News and weather (7612328)
- 10.30 Keeping Secrets: Suzanne Somers in Her Own Story (1991) Biopic about the life of Suzanne Somers (29433347)
- 12.15pm Steaks (4896299)
- 12.20 Regional News and weather (4885182)
- 12.30 News (1) and weather (12724)
- 1.00 Surprise Chefs (15958)
- 1.30 Tummy People (11098)
- 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (2544057)
- 2.45 WALEs: What's My Lie? (732076)
- 2.45 Garden Calendar (732076)
- 3.15 News (1283065)
- 3.20 Regional News and weather (1283068)
- 3.25 Tots TV (1) (1263231) 3.35 Big Bag (7677989) 3.50 Animal Stories (6131219)
- 3.55 The Magic Shoes (1) (6157908)
- 4.15 The Zip and Zag Show (1) (9637705)
- 4.40 Get Wet (1) (4694328)
- 5.10 A Country Practice (5387521)
- 5.40 News (1) and weather (491326)
- 6.00 Catchphrase (801057)
- 6.25 WALEs: Wales Tonight (858809)
- 6.25 HTV Weather (442453)
- 6.30 The West Tonight (845)
- 7.00 Take Your Pick (1) (8347)
- 7.30 Coronation Street: As election day draws, paint his both camps (1) (279)
- 8.00 The Bill: Tainted Love: Pave wonders if she can still see Danny (1) (5085)
- 8.30 Kavanagh Q3: The Burning Deck: An officer and a seaman are accused of assault at a naval court martial (1) (1) (8082)
- 10.00 News at Ten (1) and weather (87540)
- 10.30 Regional News (1) (743521)
- 10.45 WALEs: Secret of Success: Nicola Heywood-Thomson meets Doreen O'Neil, one of Britain's leading music agents (910927)
- 10.45 The Talent Trail (1) (91027)
- 11.15 The Drew Carey Show (472521)
- 11.40 Renegade: Pano's surprise reunion with Leezza is interrupted (1) (2502)
- 12.40 Nash Bridges: A high-priority case forces Nash to put his honeymoon on hold (1) (8124019)
- 1.35 Club@vision (5296826)
- 2.15 War of the Worlds (8683380)
- 2.10 Racing Steward: A Year in Formula One (1) (747816)
- 4.05 Ed's Night Party (5828222)
- 4.25 Coach (5823038)
- 4.50 TV Nightscreen (91126361)
- 5.00 Coronation Street (21817)
- 5.30 News (81787)

### CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

- 1.00pm Special Babies (15858)
- 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (4834637)
- 2.45-3.15 Coping with Families (7202076)
- 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5387521)
- 6.00 Now and Then (801057)
- 6.25-7.00 Central News (858805)
- 10.40 FILM: Midnight Express (88674618)
- 1.00pm Beyond Reality (6653361)
- 2.20 Robocop (5127670)
- 3.10 World Football (90507816)
- 3.40 Vanessa (7941900)
- 4.15 Central Jobfinder '98 (9355019)
- 5.20 Asian Eye (8279729)

### WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

- 12.15pm-12.30 News (2597618)
- 1.00 On Foot (15958)
- 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (4834637)
- 2.45-3.15 Westcountry Update (732076)
- 5.08 Birthday People (588705)
- 5.10-5.40 Catchphrase (5387521)
- 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (87415)
- 10.30 Westcountry News (743521)
- 10.45 The View from Here (761873)
- 11.45 Renegade (103366)

### ANGLIA

As HTV West except:

- 10.25am Justice of the Land (7492589)
- 11.25 Blue Healers (8592106)
- 1.00pm-1.30 Shortland Street (15858)
- 2.45-3.15 Crown's Collectables (732076)
- 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5387521)
- 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (858805)
- 10.30 Anglia News Extra (83960)
- 11.00 Heroes and Villains (833328)
- 12.10am Public Morals (8504458)

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (90453) 9.00 The Big Breakfast (852291) 9.05 Johnny Bravo (836076) 9.30 Saved by the Bell (1) (1) (49750) 10.00 Bug Juice (1144434) 10.40 Sister, Sister (1) (1) (492234) 11.10 Renford Rajects (7442540) 11.45 Madison (4236288)
- 12.30pm Mission Impossible (6029163)
- 1.35 Two Weeks in Another Town (1992) Kirk Douglas plays a fading Hollywood star who goes to Italy to play a small part in a film being directed by megamillionaire Edward G. Robinson. Directed by Vincente Minnelli (94454144)
- 3.30 Watercolour Challenge (1) (873) 4.00 Finesse-to-One: The Big Winners (1) (808) 4.30 Countdown (1) (8281786) 4.55 Ricki Lake: Home It Was Only A One Night Stand (1) (1) (538988) 5.30 Pet Rescuers (1) (144)
- 6.00 Tour de France (847)
- 6.30 The Cosby Show Cliff goes on a diet to prepare for his check-up (1) (637)
- 7.00 News (1) and weather (865057)
- 7.50 The Political Slot (801837)

### CHANNEL 4

- 6.00am Sesame Street (97163)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (90453)
- 9.00 The Big Breakfast (852291) 9.05 Johnny Bravo (836076) 9.30 Saved by the Bell (1) (1) (49750) 10.00 Bug Juice (1144434) 10.40 Sister, Sister (1) (1) (492234) 11.10 Renford Rajects (7442540) 11.45 Madison (4236288)
- 12.30pm Mission Impossible (6029163)
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- 6.00 Tour de France (847)
- 6.30 The Cosby Show Cliff goes on a diet to prepare for his check-up (1) (637)
- 7.00 News (1) and weather (865057)
- 7.50 The Political Slot (801837)
- Lonely Planet: Thailand and Laos Ian Wright sees a village where women are made out of unexploded bombs (1) (3637)
- 8.30 Brookside (1) (2144)
- 9.00 Friends: Monica tries to prove her mother wrong (1) (2388)
- 9.30 Spin City: Paul has an anonymous pen pal (90502)
- 10.00 Frasier: Dinner at Eight: Frasier and Niles decide to take Martin out for a special meal (1) (85182)
- 10.30 So Graham Norton (417881)
- 11.10 King of the Hill: Hank loses his job (1) (191144)
- 11.40 South Park: The boys go hunting (1) (713540)
- 12.10am Legend of Fong Sai Yui (1) (993)
- Fong Sai Yui (Jet Li) is making a new life (744670)
- 2.00 The Nanny (1995) Bette Davis stars as a nanny whose ten-year-old charge fears she's a murderer. Directed by Seth Holt (285653)
- 3.40 Code Blue (1) (58862903)
- 3.55 An Evil Twin: Atmospheric drama starring Keith Phillips as a drifter who is outwardly calm, but inside he is a tormented soul (1) (36280477)
- 4.15 The Girl in the Red Coat: Film by Muir Ahmad (1) (1537880)
- 4.25 Hayride to Hell starring Kylie Minogue and Richard Roxburgh (15363818)
- 4.40 Tour de France (1) (8028125)
- 5.30 Early Morning: Terrytoons (4241651)
- 5.40 Insectors (8979498)

### CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellites. Viewers with a Videocorder decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are: picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

- 6.00am 5 News and Sport (3355279)
- 7.00 WideWorld (1) (1) (1445366) 7.30 Matlock (1) (9737289) 8.35 Mind in the Willows (1) (4828298) 8.00 Hakawako (3545986) 8.30 DappledFantasy (1) (3542311) 9.00 Staring from Scratch (558811)
- 9.30 Russell Grant's Postcard: Royal Windsor (8667289) 9.35 Oprah Winfrey Show (1) (8942892) 10.25 Sunset Beach (1) (8330724) 11.10 Lezza (1) (6146899) 12.00 5 News (1) (1518192) 12.00pm Family Affairs (1) (1) (8155502) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (1) (1444837) 1.30 Sons and Daughters (3184873)
- 2.00 Calculated Risk (1963, b/w) Comedy with William Lucas. A gang of crooks tunnel into a bank vault and discover an unexploded bomb (8921892)
- 3.20 The Lady from Yesterday (1985) Drama starring Wayne Rogers as a businessman who is asked by a former lover to care for the son he never knew he had (4918231)
- 5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Oprah talks to the stars of the new film Primary Colors (5959328)
- 6.00 100 Per Cent (1578328)
- 6.30 Family Affairs (1) (1592908)
- 7.00 5 News (1) (1514960)
- 7.30 Wildlife SOS (1) (1518192)
- 8.00 The Car Show: Marjella Frostrup tests the Land Rover Freelander (5167908)
- 8.30 Sick As A Parrot: Sporting quiz with Jeremy Nicholas (5146415)
- 9.00 Halifax: PP Drama with Rebecca Gibney as the forensic psychiatrist (1) (1) (5747484)
- Stephen King's Golden Years: First of an eight-part drama about a highly mysterious explosion at a secret US Government laboratory. With Keith Zerk and Felicity Huffman (1) (1800298)
- 11.50 Smooth Operator (1995) with Megan Hughes. Erotic drama about the love affair of a female corporate executive during a middle crisis (7595900)
- 1.10am O Lucky Man (1973) with Malcolm McDowell. Surreal drama about the rise, fall and second rise of a coffee salesman. Directed by Lindsay Anderson (8352192)
- 4.15 Monsters (8433000)
- 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (1964922)
- 5.30 100 Per Cent (1) (3578332)
- 12.00 Travel Log: Stop The Week 1,000m Pathfinder 1,000m Wings With Butt Wolf 2,300 Wild Ireland 3,000 Tales And Travels 4,000 Great Escape 4,200 Australian Gunmen 5,000 Paragliders 5,300 Travel Trips 6,000 Wings With Butt Wolf 6,300 On Tour 7,000 The World's Best Seafood 7,300 Flavors Of France 8,000 Going Places 10,000 Travel Log: Stop The Week 11,000 Travel Log: Stop The Week
- THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Battleline 4.30 World War 1: 8.00 Jock MacKenzie 8.30 Arctic Mysteries 9.00 Broughly Mochelangelo 8.00 Close
- CARLTON FISH [CABLE] 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30m Food for Thought 10.00 Japanese: High Days and Holidays 1.00m Food for Thought 1.30m Art 1.00m FILM: Desert Hearts 2.00m Diary 12.00m Scrambling Rocks 11.30m Horowitz 12.00m Our House 12.30m Home Again 1.00m Rescue 811 1.30m Ready Steady Cook 2.00m Rolonda 2.30m Living It Up 3.50m Jerry Springer 4.45m Tennis 5.00m Ready Steady Cook 5.30m Game Show 6.00m Phil: Fantasy Feather 11.00m Sea Life Under Lover
- ZEE TV 6.30pm Lockwood 7.00m Jason 7.30m Jay Spring 10.00m Young and the Restless 11.30m Mystery Magic 8.00m News 8.30m The World's Best 9.00m Koko Koko 11.30m Kunkun 12.00m FLM 3.00m PM 4.00m Campus 4.30m My Choice 6.00m ZEE Zone 6.00m Live Sports 6.30m Fun Film Show 7.00m Cheater: Badboy 7.30m E E 8.00m News 8.30m Parapara 9.00m FLM

### SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

- 6.00pm The Phantom of the Opera (1943) (82780347) 7.45 A Girl Most Liable (1959) (82780347) 8.00 The Step-Child (1925) (82780347) 8.20 Abbiotti and Costello Meet the Invisible Man (1957) (82780347) 8.30 The Three Musketeers (1954) (82780347) 8.50 Outer Space (1998) (8318120) 2.00 The Phantom of the Opera (1943) (82780347) 4.00 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 6.00 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 6.20 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 6.40 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 7.00 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 7.20 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 7.40 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 7.60 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 7.80 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 8.00 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 8.20 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 8.40 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 8.60 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 8.80 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347) 9.00 The Storm Fell On Her (1965) (82780347)

### SKY MOVIES GOLD

- 4.00pm Off Limits (1953) (2513182) 6.00pm Big (1988) (2271144) 8.00 Flashdance (1983) (2283688) 10.00m Fatal Attraction (1987) (2271705) 12.00m The Dream Team (1989) (8596454) 1.55am The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1978) (8305797) 3.30m The Organization (1971) (2314565)

### SKY SPORTS 1

- 7.00am Sports Centre (5431286) 7.15am Wrestling (824291) 8.15 Sports Centre (1475329) 8.30m Rugby News (823113) 9.00am Neighbours (87453) 9.30m V-Mail: Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415) 11.30m Soccer News Extra (82415)

### SATELLITE AND CABLE

Amazing Animals 2.00m Whirls the Pooch 2.15m Bear in the Big Blue House 2.45m Wario the Pooch 3.00m Timon and Pumbaa 3.30m The Simpsons 4.00m Scooby-Doo! 4.30m The Simpsons 4.50m The Simpsons 5.00m The Simpsons 5.30m The Simpsons 6.00m The Simpsons 6.30m The Simpsons 6.45m The Simpsons 7.00m The Simpsons 7.15m The Simpsons 7.30m The Simpsons 7.45m The Simpsons 7.60m The Simpsons 7.75m The Simpsons 8.00m The Simpsons 8.15m The Simpsons 8.30m The Simpsons 8.45m The Simpsons 8.60m The Simpsons 8.75m The Simpsons 9.00m The Simpsons 9.15m The Simpsons 9.30m The Simpsons 9.45m The Simpsons 10.00m The Simpsons 10.15m The Simpsons 10.30m The Simpsons 10.45m The Simpsons 10.60m The Simpsons 10.75m The Simpsons 11.00m The Simpsons 11.15m The Simpsons 11.30m The Simpsons 11.45m The Simpsons 11.60m The Simpsons 11.75m The Simpsons 12.00m The Simpsons 12.15m The Simpsons 12.30m The Simpsons 12.45m The Simpsons 12.60m The Simpsons 12.75m The Simpsons 13.00m The Simpsons 13.15m The Simpsons 13.30m The Simpsons 13.45m The Simpsons 13.60m The Simpsons 13.75m The Simpsons 14.00m The Simpsons 14.15m The Simpsons 14.30m The Simpsons 14.45m The Simpsons 14.60m The Simpsons 14.75m The Simpsons 15.00m The Simpsons 15.15m The Simpsons 15.30m The Simpsons 15.45m The Simpsons 15.60m The Simpsons 15.75m The Simpsons 16.00m The Simpsons 16.15m The Simpsons 16.30m The Simpsons 16.45m The Simpsons 16.60m The Simpsons 16.75m The Simpsons 17.00m The Simpsons 17.15m The Simpsons 17.30m The Simpsons 17.45m The Simpsons 17.60m The Simpsons 17.75m The Simpsons 18.00m The Simpsons 18.15m The Simpsons 18.30m The Simpsons 18.45m The Simpsons 18.60m The Simpsons 18.75m The Simpsons 19.00m The Simpsons 19.15m The Simpsons 19.30m The Simpsons 19.45m The Simpsons 20.00m The Simpsons 20.15m The Simpsons 20.30m The Simpsons 20.45m The Simpsons 20.60m The Simpsons 20.75m The Simpsons 21.00m The Simpsons 21.15m The Simpsons 21.30m The Simpsons 21.45m The Simpsons 21.60m The Simpsons 21.75m The Simpsons 22.00m The Simpsons 22.15m The Simpsons 22.30m The Simpsons 22.45m The Simpsons 22.60m The Simpsons 22.75m The Simpsons 23.00m The Simpsons 23.15m The Simpsons 23.30m The Simpsons 23.45m The Simpsons 23.60m The Simpsons 23.75m The Simpsons 24.00m The Simpsons 24.15m The Simpsons 24.30m The Simpsons 24.45m The Simpsons 24.60m The Simpsons 24.75m The Simpsons 25.00m The Simpsons 25.15m The Simpsons 25.30m The Simpsons 25.45m The Simpsons 25.60m The Simpsons 25.75m The Simpsons 26.00m The Simpsons 26.15m The Simpsons 26.30m The Simpsons 26.45m The Simpsons 26.60m The Simpsons 26.75m The Simpsons 27.00m The Simpsons 27.15m The Simpsons 27.30m The Simpsons 27.45m The Simpsons 27.60m The Simpsons 27.75m The Simpsons 28.00m The Simpsons 28.15m The Simpsons 28.30m The Simpsons 28.45m The Simpsons 28.60m The Simpsons 28.75m The Simpsons 29.00m The Simpsons 29.15m The Simpsons 29.30m The Simpsons 29.45m The Simpsons 29.60m The Simpsons 29.75m The Simpsons 30.00m The Simpsons 30.15m The Simpsons 30.30m The Simpsons 30.45m The Simpsons 30.60m The Simpsons 30.75m The Simpsons 31.00m The Simpsons 31.15m The Simpsons 31.30m The Simpsons 31.45m The Simpsons 31.60m The Simpsons 31.75m The Simpsons 32.00m The Simpsons 32.15m The Simpsons 32.30m The Simpsons 32.45m The Simpsons 32.60m The Simpsons 32.75m The Simpsons 33.00m The Simpsons 33.15m The Simpsons 33.30m The Simpsons 33.45m The Simpsons 33.60m The Simpsons 33.75m The Simpsons 34.00m The Simpsons 34.15m The Simpsons 34.30m The Simpsons 34.45m The Simpsons 34.60m The Simpsons 34.75m The Simpsons 35.00m The Simpsons 35.15m The Simpsons 35.30m The Simpsons 35.45m The Simpsons 35.60m The Simpsons 35.75m The Simpsons 36.00m The Simpsons 36.15m The Simpsons 36.30m The Simpsons 36.45m The Simpsons 36.60m The Simpsons 36.75m The Simpsons 37.00m The Simpsons 37.15m The Simpsons 37.30m The Simpsons 37.45m The Simpsons 37.60m The Simpsons 37.75m The Simpsons 38.00m The Simpsons 38.15m The Simpsons 38.30m The Simpsons 38.45m The Simpsons 38.60m The Simpsons 38.75m The Simpsons 39.00m The Simpsons 39.15m The Simpsons 39.30m The Simpsons 39.45m The Simpsons 39.60m The Simpsons 39.75m The Simpsons 40.00m The Simpsons 40.15m The Simpsons 40.30m The Simpsons 40.45m The Simpsons 40.60m The Simpsons 40.75m The Simpsons 41.00m The Simpsons 41.15m The Simpsons 41.30m The Simpsons 41.45m The Simpsons 41.60m The Simpsons 41.75m The Simpsons 42.00m The Simpsons 42.15m The Simpsons 42.30m The Simpsons 42.45m The Simpsons 42.60m The Simpsons 42.75m The Simpsons 43.00m The Simpsons 43.15m The Simpsons 43.30m The Simpsons 43.45m The Simpsons 43.60m The Simpsons 43.75m The Simpsons 44.00m The Simpsons 44.15m The Simpsons 44.30m The Simpsons 44.45m The Simpsons 44.60m The Simpsons 44.75m The Simpsons 45.00m The Simpsons 45.15m The Simpsons 45.3

### ATHLETICS 43

#### Modahl hoping to get career back on track



### TENNIS 46

#### Kicking up a racket amid calm of County Week



Cronje's stylish century undermines rival captain's decision to field

# Stewart's gamble backfires

By ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (first day of five. England won toss; South Africa have scored 302 for seven wickets against England)

THE history of cricket, the traditions of Trent Bridge and even the evidence of this series were all against it, but Alex Stewart, undaunted, put South Africa in to bat yesterday. To justify such a gamble, he needed them dismissed by the evening but, instead, they were still constructing a total that could put this fourth Test match, and the series, out of England's reach.

It was the second time that Stewart had won the toss this summer and he took the same course as Lord's, where a ten-wicket defeat was the outcome. There, at least, conditions encouraged seam bowling and England hinted at vindication with four early

Salisbury struggles 44  
Lara's travails 45  
Surrey prosper 45

wickets. Yesterday, assistance was never extravagant and only the second new ball put a slightly rosier complexion on events.

Angus Fraser, who had run in with determination, control and a degree of relief after winning the final place ahead of Alan Mullally, took two wickets in seven balls before bad light intruded. If England can take the final three wickets swiftly today, and then bat far better than of late, the game can still be won, but this is not the position from which Stewart would have chosen to start the second day.

Stewart was seduced by the grass on the pitch and the need to be positive. The greenness, however, sustained no consistent movement and positive thoughts would have been transmitted more effectively by backing his batsmen to make a winning score.

Hansie Cronje, his South Africa counterpart, did say that he would have chosen to bowl, too, but, a game ahead and with Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock to call upon, his



Running riot: Cronje, left, the South Africa century-maker, puts Salisbury, the England leg-spinner, to the sword. Photograph: Rebecca Naden

circumstances were different. In the event, Cronje was able to enjoy a thoroughly fulfilling day, leading his side into formidable territory with his first century for 29 Tests. Cronje, who scored five hundreds in his first 21 Tests, had been waiting since March 1995 for a sixth. It was a mighty fine one, too, made with immense certainty and style. It took him only 221 minutes and contained the one minor blemish of a sharp chance to cover, put down one-handed by Mark Butcher, when he was 44. The deprived bowler was

Andrew Flintoff but, if that particular long-hop scarcely warranted a wicket, he could still be satisfied with his debut. Asked to bowl 15 overs, his first ten were impressive, his high action obtaining inswing at a decent pace. He took the wicket of Jacques Kallis and rose above the pressure of the occasion with a style that must be encouraged.

If only something similar could be said of Ian Salisbury. Sadly, his first Test for two years began no more auspiciously than his last. Cronje's predetermined aggression allowing him no scope to settle. After starting with a maiden, eight more overs cost him 57 runs and the only mitigation was that he would have been far better bowling in the second innings of the game than the first.

Stewart decreed otherwise and the decision may haunt him. His faith in his bowlers was touching, however, and in the first hour Darren Gough went some way towards repaying it.

Gough, who once again completely outbowed Dominic Cork, his partner, plucked out the openers in his fifth and sixth overs. Liebenberg was caught behind playing a stiff-legged drive and Kirsten

played on as he tried to withdraw his bat. To have South Africa 26 for two on a pitch with neither the pace nor the lateral movement that they had expected was a fine start for England and they sustained it with a third wicket - again, pretty much a donation - soon after lunch. Daryll Cullinan, who had set off with disdainful fluency, clipped Fraser over-confidently to square-leg, where Ramprakash took a comfortable catch.

The occasional ball lifted the bowlers' spirits, such as the one Gough brought back sharply to all but bowl Cronje between bat and pad, but the South African's treatment of Salisbury altered the balance of the day. He attacked him with the malice with which he once addressed Shane Warne, and found a bowler less capable of holding his nerve.

With Cork equally profligate from the other end, adopting a strange compulsion to bowl short to Cronje, England conceded 50 runs in seven overs. Stewart had to turn back to his boyish gait, and Flintoff surprised Kallis

with an inswinger that had him caught behind off the inside edge. It was in his next over that Cronje was dropped and England may look back wistfully at the moment.

Cronje reached his fifty, from 75 balls, with a square-cut for four and when Salisbury was removed he had, in six overs, conceded six fours and a pulled six. Gough, straining for extra pace, more than once exposed Cronje's awkwardness in back-foot defence but the force was with him and his century looked ever more inevitable.

The willing Fraser, who bowled seven overs for eight runs either side of tea, was fortunate to gain a leg-before verdict against Jonty Rhodes with a ball that looked to be bouncing too high, but when he was preferred to Cork with the new ball, he discovered a new degree of movement.

Shaun Pollock had played superbly to make 50 in a stand of 96 with Cronje but he was powerless against a ball that bounced and left him to take the outside edge. Boucher then played no shot to a ball that darted into him late and South Africa closed with the paradox of reduced command but greater promise for their bowlers.

# Tour's pursuit of drugs gives riders no rest

### Jeremy Whittle reports from France on the widening inquiry into allegations of cheating among professional cyclists

EVEN during its traditional day of rest, the spectre of drugs haunted the Tour de France yesterday. Police in Lyons, Lille and Metz detained riders and other personnel from the Festina and TVM teams.

Richard Virenque, runner-up to Jan Ullrich in the Tour last year; Laurent Brochard, the world road race champion; and Alex Zülle, the Swiss double-winner of the Tour of Spain, were among the nine members of the Festina team taken into custody by police in Lyons for further questioning over the next 48 hours.

The Festina team and its management were expelled from the Tour last week after the discovery by French customs officers of 400 pills of performance-enhancing drugs in a Festina team car three days before the race began in Dublin on July 11.

Four of the Festina team, Virenque and Zülle and his fellow Swiss riders, Laurent Dufaux and Armin Meier, allegedly had sought assurances through Marc Biver of the International Management Group, their agent, that they would

of the team's materials or equipment was impounded.

The trio's detention follows the alleged seizure by French customs officers of unspecified doping products from a TVM team vehicle near Reims in eastern France four months ago.

Guido van Calster, TVM's assistant director, said: "Plain-clothes police officers turned up at the team hotel at breakfast time and took the three people away."

Last night, with Virenque, Zülle and Brochard, three of the biggest names of the modern Tour de France in police custody, speculation increased that French police would be conducting further investigations into teams still competing in this year's race. Chief among these were the Casino team, whose riders have already won two stages. Casino has been implicated by a series of press interviews with Frederic Pontier, who rode for the French team last season. "Yes, I took EPO," Pontier told the French press. "But I must make it clear that I never used any other doping products." EPO (erythropoietin) was developed as a medicine for patients with anaemia and kidney deficiencies, allowing them to manufacture more red blood cells.



Pontier, who has now reverted to amateur status, alleged that the use of riders' prize-money to finance the purchase of doping products was a common practice. "This is the usual system," he claimed. "That's why it's unfair to point the finger only at Festina. They simply had the bad luck to be stitched up by their Soigneur [masseur]."

But Vincent Lavenu, Casino's team director, rejected his former rider's claims. "I'm very disappointed that we have to put up with this constant suspicion," Lavenu said. "Our riders are healthy, hard-working, courageous and honest - that's how we've enjoyed our success."

After searching team vehicles, but not the riders' rooms, the officers detained Cees Priem, TVM's long-standing director, their Russian team doctor and a mechanic. None

## SCOREBOARD FROM TRENT BRIDGE

England won toss

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings  
G Kirsten b Gough 7  
D J Cullinan c Stewart b Gough 18  
J H Kallis c Stewart b Flintoff 47  
D J Cullinan c Ramprakash b Fraser 30  
W J Gagnevex not out 113  
J N Rhodes b Fraser 24  
S M Pollock c Stewart b Fraser 50  
I M Venter b Fraser 4  
S Bury not out 0  
Extras (5, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0) 14  
Total (7 wickets, 86.2 overs, 362mins) 302

**P R Adams and A Donald** to bat.

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-21 (Kirsten 6), 2-26 (Kallis 4), 3-58 (Kallis 16), 4-117 (Cronje 42),

5-186 (Cronje 81), 6-292 (Cronje 107), 7-332 (Cronje 113)

**BOWLING:** Gough 23-4-71-2 (nb 2, 10 balls); Cork 17-2-85-0 (nb 2, 6 balls); 12-0-41-21 (4, 4 balls); Fraser 19-2-42-4 (nb 6, 3 balls); 6-2-13-0 (5 balls); 7-1-8-1 (1, 2-4-2); Flintoff 16-1-49-1 (6 balls); 5-0-15-0 (4-1-2); 6-1-22-0 (Salisbury 9-1-57-0 (1 six, 8 balls); 7-1-1-0 (2-0-10-0); Boucher 4-1-12-0 (1 four, one run).

**ENGLAND:** M A Butcher, M A Atherton, N Hussain, J A Stewart, M R Ramprakash, G A Hick, A Flintoff, D G Cork, I D S Salisbury, D Gough and A R C Fraser to bat.

**Umpires:** M J Kitchin and R S Duran (New Zealand); third umpire: R Julian; Match Referee: A Sharfin (Zimbabwe).

**SERIES DETAILS:** First (Edgbaston): Match drawn. Second (Lord's): South Africa won by ten wickets. Third (Old Trafford): Match drawn. Test to come: First (Reading): August 6-10.

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### TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1466

ACROSS  
2 Desperately hungry (6)  
6 Exclusive group (6)  
8 Arctic people, language (6)  
9 Daughter of Henry 8; bushman's swag (Aus.) (7)  
10 Keen (5)  
12 Magnifying glasses (10)  
16 Short linking movement, play (10)  
18 C. Robin's nurse (Milna) (5)  
20 Puts out of shape (7)  
21 Almaviva's valet (Beaumar-chais) (6)  
22 Clothiness (6)  
23 Shaking noisily; immersing (8)

DOWN  
1 Groovy cinema (4-3)  
2 Fine tune again (8)  
3 Spring festival (6)  
4 Having debt (5)  
5 Scrapes clean (6)  
7 Chivalrously impractical (8)  
11 Minor planet (8)  
13 Consenting (8)  
14 Horizontal element of compass bearing (7)  
15 Electrician; foreman (6)  
17 Of the nervous system (6)  
19 Block of gold (5)

### SOLUTION TO NO 1465

ACROSS: 1 Two 3 Stoicism 8 Simmer 10 Gecko 11 Crack of dawn 13 Sphinx 15 Gideon 17 Gesticulate 20 Alien 21 Guessed 22 Dishevelled 23 Herd

DOWN: 1 Test case 2 Eliza 4 Tariff 5 Ingratitude 6 Increase 7 Moor 9 Making sense 12 Intended 14 Higgins 16 Jingle 18 Aisle 19 Bald

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## Rose awakes from his reverie

AFTER the pleasures of the carousel came the painful jolt of the bumper cars. Justin Rose played his first round in earnest as a professional golfer yesterday and discovered that in the fairground of the European Tour, even the most feted can be fated.

Rose has been walking on air these past few days as he has floated through them without a care in the world, every corner negotiated has brought forth a new delight. Fourth in the Open Championship, turned professional on Monday, people from hither and yon anxious to speak to him; all this at the age of 17 years, 11 months and three weeks. It had to end some time and, with the first stroke of his first round, it did.

Just one of those days. Not an excuse, but assuredly a reason. A man twice his age might have buckled under the strain of being the focus of attention of the world and his dog, but until now he had withstood it with a gift for resilience that, if nurtured, encouraged and fertilised, will stand him in good stead in the months and years to come.

Even as he was taking his first, hesitant steps on the road to the rest of his life, a nice counterpoint was being enacted on the 18th green by a man who, like Rose, is often a victim of his own precocious talents.

Lee Westwood was, and remains, England's best young golfer and, as though to emphasise the point, to remind the golf world of his credentials, to nudge people out of their Rose-coloured reverie, he responded with a round of heroic proportions.

Westwood had a 63 to equal the course record and take a two-stroke lead over the field. It is easy to forget that Westwood is himself only 25, an age when professional golfers are often still regarded as promising. By achievement alone, he has gone far beyond that and is now ranked eighth in the world. Justin Rose has some catching up to do.

Westwood, a man of dry but never cruel wit, was in prime form as he reflected on his round. Asked to comment on the impression that Rose had made, he leaned forward in his chair, gazed earnestly at his interlocutor and asked, mock-mystified: "Justin...?"

Westwood went on to say kind things about his youthful compatriot, even playing the senior statesman. "It's nice to see younger players coming on tour," he said, eyes twinkling, a veritable veteran giving a patriarchal welcome to the boy wonder.

The Rosemania to which everybody has fallen prey has another echo in the past. Twenty-two years ago this week a hitherto little-known 19-year-old who, the week before, had finished second alongside Jack Nicklaus to Johnny Miller in another Royal Birkdale Open, came to the Netherlands and, at Kennermer, spreadeagled the field to claim his first European Tour victory.

The man's name was Severiano Ballesteros. The same Severo who yesterday had an opening round of 68. If, by the time young Rose reaches Ballesteros's age, he has gone even halfway towards equaling the triumphs that the great Spaniard has achieved in a sporting lifetime garlanded with glory, his career will not have been in vain.



Rose: back to earth

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